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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 22ND NOVEMBER.

THE LAST CALCUTTA GAZETTE records another case of patriotic liberality on the part of a native zemindar. The Dinapore Charitable Dispensary ran the risk of being turned adrift for want of house accommodation. The proprietor of the house in which it was located not only refused to put it in repairs but served a notice to quit. At this juncture Babu Gour Pershad Sahoo, an influential zemindar of Secunderpore, came forward with an offer of a donation of Rs. 3,000 for the purpose of providing some other accommodation for the dispensary. Stimulated by this offer the Dispensary Committee succeeded in raising a further sum of Rs. 4,772. With these funds the Dinapore Dispensary Committee will be enabled to purchase a house for the Dispensary at a cost of Rs. 4,000 and to build a small house adjoining the dispensary at a cost of Rs. 1,000. The Commissioner of Patna has been requested to communicate to Babu Gour Pershad Sahoo the intelligence that the Lieutenant Governor has learnt with much satisfaction of the liberality displayed by him.

THE TIMES publishes the following *verbatim* report of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to the Khedive of Egypt in investing his son with the insignia of the Star of India:

"Sir,—I consider it a high privilege, a high duty, and it is a great gratification to myself personally to be able, in the presence of your Highness, to carry out the commands of Her Majesty the Queen, who has charged me with the duty of investing you, Sir (turning to the Prince hereditary), with the insignia of the Order of the Star of India. It is not the most ancient of our English Orders, but it is one highly valued by us for the distinction it confers on those to whom it is granted for their services to India. The Queen has determined to confer this special mark of consideration, Sir for yourself and family, because of the good will Her Majesty bears towards His Highness the Khedive, himself a member of the Order, who has always shown himself a true friend to the English nation, and has done so much to promote the safety and convenience of our communication between England and India in facilitating the transit of our troops and commerce. I trust that in fulfilling this charge with which the Queen has intrusted me I may be adding another link to strengthen the bonds of friendship which already exist between England and Egypt."

M. GAMBETTA has addressed a remarkable letter to his Lyons friends, from which we make the following extract:

"The politics of our days are bound, like all the sciences, to march gradually from the simple to the complex; but more than all other sciences it requires the spirit of circumspection, prudence, temperance. Politics are not a geometry, all the constructions of which are traced in perfect lines, all the problems of which necessarily receive exact solutions. They ought, beyond doubt, to be inspired by fixed and certain principles, but they are carried on with men and for men, across interests and passions which throng together, in the face of traditions which resist. They ought, therefore, to know how to arrange with necessity, and never to risk the fate of an idea or a people for the honour of a hopeless theory. We have had predecessors, we shall have successors; we shall only bequeath them a very imperfect patrimony, for all the conquests we shall have been able to realize will only give the measure of the progress even of political morals, still, alas! much in arrears. Arrived at public life at the most difficult period of this century, we have but one duty—to maintain, augment, and transmit the heritage to better prepared and more fortunate generations. It is necessary, then, to measure and regulate the march in order to avoid falls."

These words apply equally to the rulers of all civilized countries.

MR. GOSCHEN M.P., who concluded his University course 25 years ago, has only recently taken his degrees at Oriel College, Oxford.

PIUS XI. in one of his recent discourses thus attributed the prosperity of France to the prayers, pious works, and the pilgrimage of the faithful:

"I do not tell you only, my beloved, that God has heard your prayers made in the sacred temples... that He has blessed your pilgrimages and your many works of charity; this is not all,—God in his goodness has desired to show you that your good works have risen to His throne like fragrant incense. Is it not true that while we are now speaking commerce is flourishing in France, the crops are in all parts rich and plentiful, and that ringing coin circulates abundantly in your districts, while in other places, and particularly here in Italy, it disappears and gives no other sound beyond that produced by a great mass of paper flung with impetus upon a hard table or upon the pavement?"

This language would not be unbecoming the lips of an Indian Brahmin.

SOME ALTERATIONS have been made with respect to the salaries of the English Judges under the New Supreme Courts of Judicature Acts which came into operation on November 1. The future Judges of the

High Court will receive £ 5000 a year each. The existing Lords Justices will continue to be paid £6,000, but, on a vacancy, will be reduced to £ 5,000, the Admiralty Court Judge receives £4,000, but in November will be raised to £5,000, the Lord Chancellor and the "chief" of the other courts will continue to be paid the present amount—namely, the Lord Chancellor £6,000, and £4,000 as Speaker of the House of Lords; Chief Justice of England £8,000, the Master of the Rolls, £6,000, the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and the Chief Baron of the Exchequer £7,000 each. The other Judges to receive £5,000 a year each. The Supreme Courts of Judicature will in November consist of Her Majesty's Court of Appeal and Her Majesty's High Court of Justice; the latter will sit in several divisions and in the same manner as heretofore. There will be the Chancery division, the common law division, and the other divisions, until law and equity work harmoniously together at Westminster and Lincoln's Inn.

IF AN increase of the number of post office missives be, as is often asserted, a genuine test of national prosperity, the report of the German Post affords abundant evidence of it. In 1874 there were more than 962,000,000 letters and parcels sent through the post, against about 878,000,000 in 1873. In other words, the growth of correspondence in a single year was over 9 per cent.

AN EXTRAORDINARY instance of the remarkable productive qualities of some of the American varieties of potatoes is reported from England. One pound of 'snow flake' has produced 638 lbs. and one pound of Eureka 1,082½ lbs. This is the greatest weight recorded as having been grown from one pound of seed.

TUESDAY, 23RD NOVEMBER.

THE STUFF OF WHICH MAN IS COMPOSED. Dr. Lancaster, of London, recently analyzed a man, and presented the result of his investigation in a palpable form to his audience during a late chemical lecture. The body operated upon weighed 158½ pounds. The lecture exhibited upon the platform 231 pounds carbon, 2½ pounds lime, 21½ ounces phosphorus, and about 1 ounce each sodium, iron, potassium, and silicon. He apologized for not exhibiting 5,595 cubic feet of oxygen, weighing 121 pounds; 105,800 cubic feet of hydrogen, weighing 15½ pounds and 52 cubic feet of nitrogen, likewise obtained from the body, on account of their great bulk. All of these elements combine into the following: 121 pounds water, 16½ pounds gelatin, 132 pounds fat, 8½ pounds fibrine and albumen, 77 pounds phosphate of lime, and other mineral substances.

RUSSIA has suddenly remembered that she too has a bone to pick with China, and she has demanded satisfaction for the massacre of a caravan in 1872, with the threat of discontinuing diplomatic relations if this satisfaction be not at once given. A China paper thinks "it is scarcely likely that the officials will now elect to have an open rupture with Great Britain, and for this, if for no other reason, we expect shortly to learn that Mr. Wade's demands have been fully complied with."

FROM THE 1st of this month there will be no such persons as attorneys or proctors in England, both of which titles will be merged in the Chancery appellation of solicitor.

THE COLOGNE GAZETTE says that the "present state," or strength of the Russian Caucasian Army consists of 116 battalions of infantry, 4 regiments of cavalry, 48 batteries of artillery, and 2 battalions of Sappers and Miners, and the arrangements are complete for increasing this force by 11 light infantry battalions and 32 regiments of Cossacks. Russia has taken care to intimate through its organ, that the first note of the war would cause from 130,000 to 136,000 men, with 384 cannon, to take the field without delay. It is said that this formidable force is armed with the newest weapons, and equipments in vogue in the Russian Army. The destination of this force is unknown. But it requires no prophet to indicate the direction in which it may move next spring.

THE KHEWIVE OF EGYPT, it would seem, has made up a delightful family party in his Cabinet. His eldest son is Prime Minister, his second son Minister of

Public Instruction, and all other portfolios are confided to his sons-in-law.

IT IS PREDICTED that this winter will be a severe one in Europe, and prove very rigorous, and that large quantities of snow will fall in November, December, and January.

A CURIOUS FACT is recorded in the Administration Report of the Hill Tracts, Northern Arakan. The tribes will not grow rice for the following reason. They say the birds deprive them of the greater portion of the crop. The cultivation being only in patches in the midst of dense jungle, the birds congregate on it in dense swarms.

THE PRESENT protectionist Government of Victoria has lost no time in taxing the products of Indian jute mills. Wool-packs are to pay three shillings per dozen, corn-sacks one shilling, and small bags sixpence.

WEDNESDAY, 24TH NOVEMBER.

IT IS CALCULATED that about 14,000 children will be present on the morning of the Prince's arrival at Madras, and that about 2,000 will take part in the singing.

THE DECCAN SIRDARS and the South Maharatta Chiefs intend to back up a loyal address to H. R. H. the Prince with an engagement to establish an Industrial Arts School in honour of his visit.

THE LARGEST gun in the world just been completed at Woolwich. Without the carriage, the gun weighs 81 tons, the carriage bringing the weight up to 120 tons. It is nearly 27 ft. long, and the bore is 2ft. in diameter. The weight of the first shot fired was 1,250 lbs, and the charge of powder 170 lbs. It took twelve men to ram the charge home, and the shot was elevated to the mouth of the gun by hydraulic apparatus. The gun was fired by electricity, and it was found that the shot had penetrated 45 feet of sand.

MISS BLACKFORD the Yankee woman, who so thoroughly won the heart of the Grand Duke of Russia, now under arrest and declared to be insane, and for whom the Grand Duke did not hesitate to steal his mother's diamonds, has published a book, entitled *Funny Lear* which forms the great scandal of the hour on the continent of Europe. In that book she has—basely though—revealed everything regarding her intrigues as also important secrets of state. It is said that the Russian Government offered her ten thousand pounds on condition that she should not publish her book!

THE FOLLOWING figures are obtained from the Madras Municipal Report for 1871-72, and from the Reports of Calcutta and Bombay for 1874. Madras has no lighting or water rates and the receipts from these are omitted in the receipts put down for the other Presidencies:

	Madras.	Calcutta.	Bombay.
Total population	2,67,552	347,600	644,405
Annual income from all sources	Rs. 7,03,652	17,12,865	24,11,631
Of which the house rates is	at 7½	at 8	at 5
	2,41,550	8,62,663	5,38,442
The annual average burden per head of population is	1.77	3.80	3.74
The average assessment value of houses, huts, &c, per head of the population	3.5	25.0	13.5

It will be seen that the house-rate is the highest in Calcutta, and that the incidence of taxation is the greatest in this city.

THE RATE OF MORTALITY in Calcutta is again increasing. The total number of deaths during the week ending the 13th November rose to 395 from 339 of the previous week. The deaths from cholera were 85 and from fever 136. The return for the week ending the 20th instant shows a still greater number. The total number of deaths was 454; deaths from cholera 106, and from fever 167.

HER MAJESTY has been graciously pleased to consent to Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales and the Royal children passing their Christmas and New Year at Copenhagen. The absence of Her Royal Highness will not, however, exceed five, or, at the utmost, six weeks.

THE CARLIST CHIEF MENDIRI, who had fallen into disgrace at Estella, has taken refuge in France, and declared his submission to King Alphonso. The Madrid papers assert that many officers and men are deserting from the Carlist ranks, and that a strong feeling prevails among the inhabitants of the northern Provinces for a termination of the Civil War by a recognition of the King Alphonso.

A FRESH insurrection has broken out at Khokand, in Central Asia, and the new Khan Nasr Eddin has fled for refuge to the Russian headquarters.

THURSDAY, 25TH NOVEMBER.

THE INDIAN DAILY NEWS states that Mr. Cockrell Smith has been called upon by the High Court to shew cause why his name should not be struck off the rolls of attorney for appropriating sums of money belonging to a client of his.

THE NOMINATION of Babu Sreenath Ghose to be Vice-Chairman of the Calcutta Justices has been approved by the Lieutenant Governor. At yesterday's meeting of the Justices the appointment was carried by 33 votes against 16.

WE REGRET to record another death from overwork and want of rest in this trying climate. Mr. Cecil Stephenson of the East Indian Railway had suddenly broken down in health, and proceeded on his way home as a last hope. We are sorry to learn that he died at sea on Sunday last and was buried at sea the same evening.

THE BANK OF BENGAL has issued the following notification:

Calcutta, 24th November 1875.—Notice is hereby given, that the Bank of Bengal, General Treasury and Public Debt Office, will be closed from Thursday the 23rd to Saturday the 25th December, both days inclusive; and on Saturday the 1st and Monday the 3rd January next.

By order of the Directors.

R. Hardie,
Secretary and Treasurer.

Are we to understand from this that the offices under the Government of India in Calcutta will not be closed for twelve days for which the offices under the Bengal Government will be in honor of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales' visit? Why has no notification been issued by the Government of India on the subject?

THE DUKE of Buckingham, the new Governor of Madras, landed on the 23rd instant. Numbers of people assembled to welcome His Grace.

THE PIONEER says that the Northern Bengal Railway will most likely be opened in two years' time. The earth-work is almost finished throughout the line, ballast is being burnt, some has been laid, and a good deal more will be put down this season. All along the line active preparations are being made for bridging, and a few cylinders have already been sunk. This line is to run from the Ganges through the Pabna, Rajshaye, Bogra, Dinagepore, Rungpore and Julpigore districts to Panchkeela, at the foot of the Darjeeling Hills.

IN MR. CLARK'S pamphlet on *Notices of some Indian Women*, we read—"When Jehangir died at Rajuri of asthma, in 1627, she [Nur Jehan] retired from the world on an annuity of £250,000 a year. She afterwards wore no dress but white, the mark of mourning, and abstained from all amusements. She spent the rest of her life in building the beautiful mausoleum to her husband's memory, and laying out the grounds at Shahdera, near Lahore, where she herself was also buried near him, with a few female attendants, in 1647."

FRIDAY, 26TH NOVEMBER.

WE GAVE in our last an extract from the *London Examiner's* review of Babu Romeshchunder Dutt's *Peasantry of Bengal*. We give the following from the *Saturday Review's* notice:

"Directors of Public Instruction and other exalted functionaries in India have often expressed a wish that intelligent young natives, soaked in Milton and Shakespeare, should develop a new literature by combining indigenous thought with foreign cultivation. The Orientalist, they tell us, ought to learn from the highest models how to present to the public his own peculiar thoughts, ideas, and experiences. The voice might still be that of Esau, but the hand would become that of Jacob. Unfortunately the general result of Eastern academic training has hitherto been to let loose on society a score or two of writers who have forgotten or despise their own vernacular without learning to write a fair English style. We have no desire to comment severely on young Hindus who have taken the not very popular line of exposing the wrongs of the helpless part of their countrymen, but we must say that, if anything is calculated to excite misgivings as to the power of competitive examination to produce native gentlemen who are to take their share with Englishmen of the burdens and duties of civil administration, it is the publication of schoolboy essays like the present. The author is not only a member of the regular Bengal Civil Service, but he is a barrister of the Middle Temple. That he possesses aptitude for acquiring and readiness for displaying such knowledge as examiners can test; that, by having crossed the dark water and remained some time in England, he has shown himself superior to silly or worn-out prejudices of caste, may be taken for granted. It might even have been hoped that intercourse with English society would have taught him the value of modesty in assertion

and temperance in discussing facts, especially those which involve great issues and have been much controverted by able journalistic and official pens. But there appears little danger lest an acute Bengali should ever err by deficiency of presumption or conceit. A young author, who can scarcely have earned his first promotion, and who undertakes, in two hundred small pages, to review the whole condition of the Bengal Ryot under Hindu, Mahomedan, and English rule, as well as to consider the means of improving his prospects, is equal to anything. He may even lecture Sir Henry Maine on supposed errors in his *Village Communities*, or offer gratuitous advice to Sir Richard Temple as to the settlement of disputes in the Eastern provinces of Bengal. It must be admitted, on the other hand, that the writer has espoused the cause of the agricultural castes who, without being exactly the finest peasantry on earth or resembling the Scotch in any one particular, as they have been said to do have turned swamps into rice-fields, and are now turning portions of rice-fields into productive garden lands. And it must not be forgotten that, by the very constitution of Hindu society, almost every native is bred up with some knowledge of such questions as rent and revenue, payments in kind and in money, measurements by chains or perches, and the machinery and working of the revenue and judicial Courts. Even a tenant-proprietor, who can just sign his name to a bond or quitance displays a familiarity with these topics which is only attained by active politicians and Englishmen who have 2,000l. or 3,000l. a year in land.

This essay is written, as might have been anticipated, in puffy paragraphs stuffed full of very big epithets, but it really contributes very little, if anything, to the solution of questions which have perplexed statesmen from the days of Lord Cornwallis, and which are at this moment engaging the serious attention of the local Government. There is, of course, a good deal of secondhand criticism, and one or two original suggestions which no one would wish to appropriate. We hardly know, too, whether there is mere indecency in the silly and spiteful remarks on Lord Wellesley and Lord Cornwallis than in the patronizing condescension displayed towards the present Viceroy. Errors are not wanting in regard to agricultural matters, which show that the writer has a good deal to learn regarding the very subject which he professes to teach. Possibly, by this time, he may have discovered that a *putunidar* is not to be classed among the 'peasantry of Bengal,' he being, in fact, a very powerful landlord of the second degree, whose legal status was defined by a law passed more than fifty years ago; that the word *ashu* or *ashu* does not mean 'early,' but 'quick' or 'swift,' and that the months of Bhadro and Aswin or August and September, instead of being 'the pleasantest in the year,' even to natives inured to the sun, are sometimes more deadly, and always more trying to the constitution, than the dry heats of April and May. Occasionally, amidst a tirade on the shortcomings of the English Government, the pen appears to have been arrested by a dim consciousness that things could not after all have been so badly managed, or the writer would not have been where he is, and so every now and then, after a rush of ugly epithets, there comes a gurgling of praise and gratitude. That there should be a cry for 'Church disestablishment' from a Hindu, who says he is taxed for weekly sermons delivered before Englishmen, is just what might be expected. It is even less true than an English workman's complaint that the allowances of the Royal Family come out of the wages of the mechanic. To give the claim for Indian disestablishment the shadow of a foundation it would first be necessary for the Government to resume every single acre of land which, under scores of varying titles well known to all Indian administrators, is exempted from revenue, and is still dedicated to the religious establishments of both Mahomedans and Hindus. When this confiscation had taken place, it would have to be followed by the further resumption of other rent-free lands which were originally devoted to pious, but long have passed into secular, uses; and even then the cry about taxing Hindus for the maintenance of English pulpits would be equally absurd. It would be easy to show that there are contributions to Indian taxation in the sea customs paid by generations of Englishmen of the governing and the independent class, to which natives do not contribute one farthing, and which would furnish the salaries of the whole ecclesiastical establishments and an additional bishopric twice over. We cannot afford to criticize further in detail, and we must take leave of the author in the hope that he may somehow sevenleagued words, learn a little candour and modesty, and dispel the painful impression created in some minds that to set up Bengalis as rulers over warlike castes or energetic and independent Englishmen is very like putting an Alexandrine Greek, such as described in Mr. Kingsley's *Hypatia*, to govern the countrymen of the elder Cato. But in spite of all this we indulge a hope that the writer may yet turn out a useful official, and do no further discredit to the system which has given him birth.

The *Reviewer* thus concludes:

"The result of Lord Cornwallis's legislation may perhaps be not unfairly summed up by saying that cultivation has extended and population increased because the assessment was very light and the Government, as against foreign disturbance, was very strong, that the fertility of the soil and the light incidence of taxation allowed of the creation of a large number of valuable interests in the land; that the cultivators, though often hardly used by their own countrymen, and for a long time neglected by the foreign legislator, were by no means the invariable types of injured innocence smarting under unmerited oppression which some writers have tried to make out. To Sir George Campbell belongs the merit of being almost the first Governor who has attempted to give the check to the demoralizing system of irregular and illegal cesses levied by the servants of Zemindars, and paid without much remonstrance by the tenants on every conceivable incident of joy or sorrow; the marriage of a daughter, the birth of an eldest son, the bestowal of a title of honor on the head of the family by the Government, the taxation imposed for popular education, or for the construction of roads. Recently, the Indian papers tell us of combinations to resist irregular demands, as well as to evade the enhancement of rent when attempted by regular and proper procedure before the established tribunals. These manifestations of popular feeling may give some trouble to our administrators, but in one sense they are to be welcomed as the commencement of a new state of things. When tenants and cultivators, instead of burning down houses, or tearing a *Naiab* and a *Gomastha* to little bits, begin to form a fund for mutual defence, and when the Government finds it imperative to exercise both executive and legislative interference, the end of feudal tyranny is probably not very far off. Fortunately in Sir Richard Temple we have one whose early training and subsequent acquaintance with the details of Bengal administration give us reason to hope for a settlement which shall be equitable to the Ryot, and which may perhaps be received with a sense of relief by the Zemindar."

Contrast the *Examiner* with the *Saturday*! Well may the author say—opinions differ!

IT IS STATED in an English journal that an intelligent French engineer has discovered the means of suddenly arresting the progress of an invading army

by means of an electric process. The gentleman refuses to give any particulars, as he has forwarded his invention to the War Ministry, where it is to remain a State secret. The old days of mantras and magic are returning!

HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY and Governor General is pleased to confer upon Raja Ram Chundra Deo, of Jeypoor in the Vizagapatam District, the title of "Maharaja" as a personal distinction.

THERE WAS ONCE celebrated in Calcutta the marriage of a monkey. We read in a Paris letter that a "jubilee" was lately held in Berlin in honor of a monkey which has just completed his twenty-five years of service in Brookmann's Circus. The respectable animal was formally installed in the place of honour at a grand banquet at which, besides all the people engaged in that favourite establishment, there were several representatives of the press.

WE ARE informed that a meeting of the Native medical practitioners of this city was held at the Medical College on Monday last for the purpose of expressing their gratitude to Dr. Fayrar C. S. I. It was resolved that a suitable testimonial and address should be presented to the learned Doctor, and a Medal instituted in his name in the Medical College. The sum of Rs. 2,000 was subscribed on the spot.

THE NATIONAL PAPER has the following:

"A very large Royal Bengal tiger, measuring about eleven feet from top to tail, was killed day before yesterday, by a native at a place between Meerpore and Byganbarree. It appears that some ryots were cutting *dhan* in a field, when the brute attacked one of them seizing hold by his neck and lacerating the tendons and nerves. One of his companions was then attacked and his bowels were torn open. A third man's shoulder was smashed, and two others severely wounded before the alarm could be given in the village. A party was immediately formed, headed by quite a young man, and when it approached the lair of the tiger, the ferocious beast made a spring at the party, but the leader, who carried a loaded double-barrelled gun, dexterously pulled the tiger, and the first shot passed through the animal's right eye, which, irritated as it now was, made another spring at his foe with its mouth wide open, when the second bullet, after knocking out one of its teeth, passed out through the back of its head. It now became infuriated, and made a third spring at the man, whose ammunition being spent, rushed towards his party and snatching a loaded gun from one of them, shot the brute through the heart, and the exciting scene was over. Two of the wounded men expired on their way to the Mitford Hospital, a third has died, and the remaining two are not expected to survive long. The immense size of the tiger created a sensation when it was brought to town. Nawab Abdool Gunny presented the daring *sikhdars* with a shawl, in recognition of his bravery.

THE FOLLOWING telegram has been received regarding the Rangoon Gun powder plot:

Rangoon 20th November.—The rumours of a conspiracy in Rangoon have been much exaggerated by the Indian papers. Matters have been kept quite here, and no general alarm experienced, nor interruption of trade. Information reached the town magistrate, which induced him on the night of the 12th to put the military on the alert and order several arrests. Some ringleaders have confessed that a rising was projected for that night under Moung Bwa, a political refugee from Ava, but was abandoned owing to the failure of arrangements. The results of the inquiry have not yet been made public, but it is known that the means at the disposal of the conspirators were ludicrously insufficient, though a large number, including the Chinese, were implicated.

SATURDAY, 27TH NOVEMBER.

JONYS and the neighbouring villages, says a friend, are in deep mourning. Rumour had before killed Babu Omachurn Mitter in these columns, but alas! it has now proved too true! His unassuming good nature and active benevolence made him a general favorite with all with whom he came in contact. His death is mourned by a large circle of friends and admirers.

WE ARE sorry to record the death of Babu Hurromohun Chatterjea of this town, which melancholy event occurred last night. He was one of the early fruits of the late Hindu College, and though imbued with Western ideas at a time when English education produced its unsettling effect upon the Hindu mind, he maintained a steady character throughout life. He was the oldest officer of the education department, and saw service for about 42 years. He rendered good service to the Bethune Society as its treasurer. He was about 60 years of age. We fear he died a victim to overwork to which he was subjected since he joined the Director's office.

IF AS a Madras paper anticipates our troops have before them in the Straits a Malay war on an extensive scale, severe and protracted fighting may be looked for. The Malays are a fierce and treacherous people. The experience of the Dutch proves that they are capable of a determined resistance, and the unauthorized haste of Sir W. F. Jervois in taking over the administration of Perak, and issuing his proclamations, may lead to a result even more serious than was at first apprehended.

THE FRIEND OF INDIA is publishing a series of interesting articles on the "Iliad and Odyssey of India" from the pen of Mr. Edwin Arnold—our contemporary does not say whether it is reprinted from that gentleman's recent pamphlet on the subject, which is again reprinted from the *Daily Telegraph* as it

appears from *Trubner's American and Oriental Literary Record*. Babu Rajendralala Mitra thus corrects some of his statements regarding Mr. Wheeler's extracts from the Mahabharata:

1st. That the MS. in question did not belong to the "Calcutta Library," but to the Library of the Asiatic Society of Bengal.

2nd. That the whole of it is comprised in one folio of moderate size, and not "in nine thick volumes."

3rd. That there is no reason to believe that it was the work of the late Professor H. H. Wilson, but every thing to show that it emanated from the pen of Mr. N. B. Halhed, the author of the *Goutoo Code*.

4th. That the work is not "an accurate and almost complete translation" of the Sanskrit Mahabharata, but make-up of loose abstracts of fragments of a Persian version of the original.

5th. That the deficiencies of the text have not been supplied by Mr. Wheeler from the Aryan text.

The Babu thus concludes his letter to the *Friend*:

"I beg to add that I have moreover noticed several instances in which words, phrases, and even entire sentences have been introduced in Mr. Wheeler's extracts which do not occur in the original Sanskrit, nor in Mr. Halhed's translation; but some of which may in the Bengalee versions of Ksiramasa Dass prepared about three hundred years ago. For two such instances I beg to refer you to my *Antiquities of Orissa* (Vol. I. pp. 17 and 20) and others may be easily pointed out if required. As Mr. Wheeler does not read Sanskrit, I suspect he has been imposed upon by his Pundit who has read out to him scraps from the Bengalee version, and some-how convinced him of their being extracts in the original Sanskrit. Any how the extracts are incorrect and utterly untrustworthy, and to draw historical deductions from them would be somewhat more mischievous than relying solely on imagination for facts.

LAST WEDNESDAY'S *Calcutta Gazette* contains a notice to the effect that unless the equestrian statue of the late Lord Mayo, now lying on the jetties, is removed within two months from date, it will be sold to defray expenses. What is the Mayo Memorial Committee about?

THE *PIONEER* publishes the following telegram from Bombay:

"This morning Mr. Lee Warner, Under-Secretary to the Government of Bombay, while trying to make his way in a buggy past a file of Parsee carriages, was attacked by a number of their inmates and severely beaten. Mr. Warner, however, stuck to one of his assailants, and held him till the police arrived. The prisoner alleges as his defence that it was a religious procession which Mr. Warner disturbed."

Mr. Melville, the new Resident at Baroda, has managed to tread upon the corns of the London Specials, who have come out to this country to report the Prince of Wales' progress. He excluded them from the fête to H. R. H. at Baroda, though they had been invited by Sir Madhava Rao. The *Pioneer* has received the following telegram on the subject: "Sir Bartle Frere, on behalf of His Royal Highness, has concluded a formal treaty of five (or five) articles with the discontented special correspondents, by which treaty the latter obtain extraordinary concessions." All's well that's well.

WITH REGARD to the arrangement ultimately made by the Government of India with the Bank of Bengal for the purchase of its shares, the *Pioneer* thinks it a pity that no preliminary understanding was come to with the Bank on the subject. The wild fluctuations that took place in the market price of shares would then have been averted, and much inconvenience and individual loss might have been avoided.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London 24th November.—The Russian Press, while discussing the Eastern Question, publishes articles of a pacific nature. The reign of anarchy prevails in the Khokand, revolts being of frequent occurrence. The Kiptschak tribes have risen against the neighbouring Russians, 3,500 of the former were killed in a recent unsuccessful attempt to hold the fortress of Mamangham.

25th November.—The latest advices state that 6,000 Montenegrins, with 12 guns, are encamped on the plains of Granava, on the Herzegovinian frontier.

Vienna, 23rd November.—With reference to the article which appeared in the *Times* of the 19th instant, recommending the occupation of the Provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina by Austria, the Austrian press entirely opposes the views enunciated by the *Times*.

Galle, 24th November.—Advice from Perak to 16th. A combined naval and military attack under Captain Sterling and Whetler (sic) was made on the 15th against the stockades. After two hours' bombardment the Artillery effected a breach, when the Malays fled carrying away their wounded and dead. Six pieces of cannon were captured, and Birch's books and papers were recovered. Our troops burnt every house along the line of march. The loss of the Malays is unknown; on our side three wounded. The troops returned to the Residency the same night.

London, November 26.—Detachment of the 6th, 10th, 28th, and 47th Regiments sailed for India yesterday; detachments of the 57th and 80th will follow shortly. The English press unanimously approve the purchase by Government of the Suez Canal shares. The purchase has caused much agitation in political and financial circles.

November 26.—The Government has sent instructions to Sir William Jervois, Governor of the Straits Settlements, to abstain from the policy of annexing Perak to the Crown, and to confine himself to the punishment of the murderers of Mr. Birch. His Majesty the King of Denmark has returned to Copenhagen.

Rangoon November 27.—At the further examination of prisoners concerned in the recent plot, some have been discharged. Upwards of twenty have been committed for trial, the evidence being sufficient against them. The police are engaged in searching for other persons implicated.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following publications and periodicals: 1. The Gouya Bhasha Tattya, Part I, P. A. Ghosh's series. 2. The Materia Medica by Dr. Mahendra

lal Sircar. 3. The Revenue Register, Vol. IX No. 11, Madras. 4. Bharat Bejai by Rajendranath Chuckerbutty. 5. A Paper on the establishment in connection with the Indian Museum and Library of an Indian Institute, by J. Forbes Watson M. A. M. D. LL. D. London. 6. Journal of the National Association for October 1875.

WE ARE TOLD that a scene was enacted at the last meeting of the Bethune Society. Will a faithful report be published?

WE HEAR that Babu Tarucknath Mullick will succeed Babu Sreenath Ghose in the office of the Presidency Commissioner.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the first two numbers of the *Royal Tourist* in Bengali. The illustrations are 'ad, but the letter-press fair.

WE HAVE RECEIVED another photograph of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales by Messrs D. Mitter and Co. It is taken from a later likeness of His Royal Highness, and is decidedly better than what was given in the *Royal Tourist*.

WE ARE GLAD to learn that the return of Mr. Lethbridge has given a new impetus to the movement for the restoration of the senior College classes of the Krishnagur College. We hear that orders have been received from Government to realize all subscriptions with a view to the opening of a Third-year class at the beginning of next session.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1875.

THE PRINCE IN CALCUTTA.

GRAND preparations are being made in the capital of the British Empire in the East to give a right royal reception to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. About a lac of rupees has been subscribed by the general community for the illumination and ornamentation of the town. The citizens, who happen to dwell within the area which His Royal Highness it is believed will traverse to witness the illumination, are busy in fitting up their houses for the auspicious occasion. The Native community are making arrangements in a truly oriental style for giving a special entertainment to His Royal Highness. The European community also propose to invite His Royal Highness to a ball. Thus all classes of the great metropolitan community are vying with each other for demonstration of their loyalty and attachment to the throne. But do outward symbols and expressions imply contentedness within? Will the flood of light with which the city will be bathed on the Prince's arrival throw a spark upon the inner recesses of the popular mind? Will the music that will then regale the ear even faintly echo the deep murmurs going on within the heart of the populace? Will the pomp and pageant, which will then dazzle the eye, be an index to that real elation of the mind which is produced by a consciousness of prosperity and contentment? These questions strike our mind when we contemplate the coming event in conjunction with the discontent with the administration of the town, which is unfortunately now prevailing among all classes of H. M.'s subjects in the capital of her Indian Empire. It is superfluous for us to say that Calcutta is loyal to the Crown to the very core. As the Capital of the Empire it is the chief seat of grandeur and power of the English nation in the East. It is the centre of commerce, liberty, education, and public spirit. The blessings which follow British rule shine here with undiminished splendour. If then there is any place in the wide Indian continent, the inhabitants of which have good reasons to be grateful to the British Crown for the manifold and substantial benefits they enjoy, it is Calcutta. And whenever a fitting opportunity has occurred, the people of this city have never been found wanting in the demonstration of their loyalty and attachment to their Gracious Sovereign. They have joyed with Her joys and sorrowed with Her sorrows. About five years ago her second son visited her Indian Empire—for the first time a Prince of the Royal blood of England did it the honor—and Calcutta resounded with the loud acclaim of loyal enthusiasm. A higher honor will be conferred upon Her Majesty's subjects by the visit of the Heir Apparent to the Throne, and the citizens of

Calcutta are deeply grateful for it. The coming demonstration will be a genuine expression of the inmost feelings of the people of Calcutta towards their Sovereign and her eldest son, and the Royal Family. It will be a fitting manifestation of a sincere appreciation of the blessings of British rule. But—God save the mark! here arises the hitch to which we refer. The British Government of India taken in the abstract has been a splendid success. But what a cruel commentary upon it is the present state of the municipal administration of the Capital of European Asia! Will it please the heart of the Prince to see the seething discontent which is at present raging in the town? How will His Royal Highness take the testimony, which will doubtless be given in the municipal address of welcome, that the people are contented? Since he has trodden the Indian soil he has doubtless been reading the India papers—he may not have much time to spare for newspaper reading, but he must be desirous to keep himself acquainted with the current of local events, at any rate in the chief cities of the Empire. And what does he read in the metropolitan papers? Day after day letters and leaders appear in the papers bitterly complaining of municipal misrule and there seems to be no hope of remedying it. As an Englishman His Royal Highness knows that it is the habit of his countrymen to grumble, but they do not ordinarily grumble without a substantial grievance. Possibly His Royal Highness will consider whether they have so degenerated in the East as to raise a howl without any substratum of truth at the bottom. Can the feeling represented in the newspapers be spurious or is it the creation of the heated imagination of some "gentlemen of the press"? Surely if it were spurious or the product of the heated brain of a few newspaper writers, the community, which supported the papers, would have taken some means or other to express their dissent. But it is not the European inhabitants only who are discontented. There is also deep discontent among the native population of the town. The native papers are equally loud and bitter. And who is responsible for this state of feeling among the otherwise placid population of Calcutta? Not six months ago the Justices of Calcutta were described a happy family. They had often before been in hot water, but since Mr. Hogg's return from home for the last time a change had come over the spirit of their dream. The current was running smoothly enough, when came the unfortunate affair of the late Vice-Chairman. Since then things have been daily taking a turn worse and worse. It is a great pity that a question which is at best a personal one should have been allowed to rise to the dignity of a public scandal. The complications which arose in reference to the conduct of the late Vice-Chairman ended with his resignation—an act honorable in itself and best calculated to throw oil over troubled waters—but the fates it would seem were otherwise disposed. The rate-payers declared in one voice for Mr. Roberts as the coming man, but there are wheels within wheels, and the official wheels creaked as soon as this pressure was put upon them. Now, it surpasseth the common understanding to know why the election of a particular individual to a particular office should have been made the cause of fight between the rate-payers and the official hierarchy. The Government has no interest whatever in the appointment of the Vice-Chairman. The Chairman is its representative in the Corporation; it appoints him and has the power to remove him; even if two-thirds of the Justices vote for his removal, it has still the discretion to remove him or not. The law leaves it to the Justices entirely to elect their Vice-Chairman; it is true that the nomination unless approved by Government cannot be confirmed by them, but this approval is purely formal; the Justices may refuse to appoint a person, though approved by Government. When such is the law we cannot conceive why the officialdom should thwart the rate-payers or their representatives, the Justices, in the election of their own man. In thus obstructing the rate-payers, the whole official body of Calcutta has placed itself in a very false and painful position. Scenes have been enacted at the meetings of the Justices, which are a disgrace to the Municipality and to all concerned. Those, who pull the official strings, were evidently so blinded

with rage that they forgot that high-handedness in a matter like this would not be quietly pocketed by independent Englishmen. When the Greek meets the Greek, then comes the tug of war. Surely the Government could have brought its own weight to bear upon the municipal deliberations and put an end to the scandal. But far from doing so it stands arraigned of pandering to the official antipathy against the Man of the People. We regret this the more because Sir Richard Temple's administration so far as it has gone, say what some calumniators may, has been uniformly successful, and justly commands the confidence of the people. The spectacle is really humiliating, and must be highly mortifying to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales when he comes to our city. He doubtless expects to see Calcutta a model of local self-government, but what will he see? He will see the guardians of the city fighting like the famous Kilkenny cats; the representatives of the Queen in open rupture with her subjects both European and Native, and petty personal questions usurping the place of questions of grave importance to the town. He will read in the papers that the members of the corporation, who live, move and have their being under official command, muster strong so long as there is a personal question on the tapis, but have not the patience or decency to wait when the Budget which will govern the destinies of the rate-payers for a year is placed for discussion. He will know that his enthusiastic reception will be preceded by a demonstration, perhaps as enthusiastic, against the Municipal Government of the city. We are sincerely sorry for this position of things in the Capital of the Empire. Is a Government, which rules with such signal and magnificent success a country equal to the whole continent of Europe minus Russia, incapable of adapting itself to the sentiments and feelings of the most advanced community in the Empire? What is Lord Northbrook about? It is true that the Municipal Government of Calcutta is not directly under his control, but His Lordship is responsible for the good government of the Queen's Eastern dominions, and whatever the merit or demerit, praise or blame, it will ultimately fall to his lot. If he cannot or does not wish to directly interfere, he can do a great deal indirectly. His Lordship ought to consider what His Royal Highness will tell his Queen Mother about Calcutta on his return home. Could anything be more humiliating to the Government of India than this that in the Capital of the Empire the people are arrayed against the Government, not for its general policy or general administration, not for its personal demeanour, but for the gross mismanagement of the affairs of the town? The citizens of Calcutta might not be allowed to open their hearts to the Prince; the municipal address might draw a veil but it would not certainly contain a true expression of the feelings which are raging in their breasts; the officials who would surround him might tell a flattering tale, but His Royal Highness is quick enough to know the spirit working within. The present time we submit is most inopportune chosen for the display of official feeling against the independent community. Might it not suggest to the Prince that all that glittered was not gold, that the outward varnish did not indicate the real substance within, that the official cloak in the other parts of the country might be equally delusive, that when truth has not come on the surface in Calcutta, how could he trust the smooth expressions elsewhere? We do grieve that the Prince will see such a sad spectacle in Calcutta where above all places he should have seen a model of local self-government.

Since the above was in type we are glad to see that Sir Richard Temple has come forward in a straight-forward manner to redeem the character of his Government in reference to the municipal administration of Calcutta. His address to the Bengal Council on Saturday last was in thorough keeping with his character for liberality and evinced a sincere desire for reform.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE'S PROGRAMME OF MUNICIPAL REFORM.

Nothing could be better in spirit than Sir Richard Temple's Programme of Municipal Reform

for Calcutta, which he laid before the Bengal Council on Saturday last. The scandals at the meetings of the Justices within the last few months had become too serious and required vigorous action on the part of Government. Sir Richard has proved equal to the occasion. In his address to the Council on Saturday last he stated that he had heard many complaints against the Municipality and observed that if any specific charges were brought he would be ready to make a sifting enquiry, so far as the law gave him power to do so. If he had not sufficient power under the law, he said he would ask the Council to give him that power. He would not however rely upon the statements of anonymous and therefore irresponsible persons. If there was any truth in the statements, which he noticed in the papers, he should like to have definite facts from constituted bodies or individual rate-payers coming forward *propria persona*. It was one thing His Honor said in effect to make statements under the cloak of anonymous writing and another thing to state facts with the responsibility of avowed authorship, and those, who are incessant in their cries against municipal misrule, ought now to come forward with their facts. Sir Richard Temple has thus thrown down his gauntlet, and it will be the fault of the malcontents if they do not take it up. We may however remark that it is more against the method of business the public voice is directed than any thing else. It is the tyranny of official and *jo hokum* Justices, against which the working and independent Justices and the rate-payers protest. In this both the office-bearers of the Municipality and the Government are to blame. When we say this we do not mean only the proceedings of the Justices for the last few months. Time after time since the creation of the corporation the scandals of which the public complain have occurred, and they have reached the climax within the last few months. Neither the working Justices nor the public we believe would have called for a change in the Municipal Constitution if the harmony which had reigned in it since the return of Mr. Hogg from England had continued. But with the agitation about the late Vice-Chairman the apple of discord dropped and things have gone from bad to worse. Be that as it might the position of the Justices under the present law is most anomalous and reform therefore is much needed.

Sir Richard Temple it seems is prepared to go as far as may be deemed reasonable and judicious to concede substantial reform. His Reform Bill may be thus summed up. He would abolish the present body of Justices and create in their stead a new corporation of Municipal Commissioners. He would limit their number to sixty, of which forty or two-thirds would be elected by rate-payers and twenty or one-third appointed by Government. He would take the police divisions of the Town or Thannas, which were eighteen in number, as electoral districts, and allow the rate-payers to elect representatives for each division or thanna. He would prescribe money qualification for the voters or electors. He would extend the franchise to all persons paying annually rupees fifty in rates, which would give a constituency of about seven thousand electors; if it was desired to lower the franchise he would not go below rupees twenty. He would impose no restriction as to race, color, or creed in the election of the Commissioners. There were certain portions of the town he observed which were more thickly populated by Europeans, and if it could be arranged that for those portions European Commissioners should be returned he would not claim for Government the right of nominating one-third of the Commissioners but would be content with one-fourth. His object in reserving this right for Government was to provide for the appointment of such officials as would be from their position and knowledge of the requirements of the town useful to the corporation, also non-official Europeans of position, and native gentlemen of rank who would not probably like to canvass for votes, but whose association with the corporation would lend weight to its deliberations. In cases of nominated members he would limit the tenure of office to two years, as was the case for instance with the additional members of the Legislative Councils, but with regard to elected members he

would extend it to four years. He was of opinion that it would not be desirable to limit the term in their cases to a shorter period, considering the excitement which usually prevailed at the time of election. With respect to the powers of the Municipal Commissioners he would give them every latitude except on three important points, namely the execution of works of permanent utility, the levying and remitting of rates and taxes, and the regulation of the strength of the Police. In these matters he thought the Government ought to have controlling authority over the Municipal Commissioners.

Such was the programme of Municipal Reform, which Sir Richard Temple announced on Saturday last. He said that when he spoke in March last he did not propound any scheme simply because there was then no expression of public opinion on the subject. Since then representations had been received from two such important public bodies as the British Indian Association and the Trades' Association. Both of them had expressed a wish for a change in the constitution. Both of them advocated election instead of selection, and although difference of opinion existed as to the particular scheme best suited to the town, there was an unanimity among them for the remodelling of the constitution. The Bill will be referred back to the Select Committee for revision accordingly.

THE PRINCE'S VISIT AND THE NIZAM.

We are extremely sorry that the Prince's visit should have given rise to unpleasant complications. All India rejoices at His Royal Highness's advent, and it cannot but be a matter of the deepest regret that any incident should have occurred to detract from this general feeling. Nothing could be more pleasing than the personal bearing of Lord Northbrook towards the Native Princes, and yet we could not understand how his Lordship allowed such a sad mistake to be committed in the name of his Government in insisting upon the young Nizam's presence at the Prince's reception at Bombay or Calcutta, when his responsible ministers, acting upon the advice of the Court physicians, represented to the British Resident that His Highness could not undertake the journey without serious risk to his health, and even life. A portion of the correspondence, to which we had referred before, has now been published, and it has set the conduct of our Government in a very sorry light. A resume of it is given in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, from which we take the main facts.

The day after a conversation on the subject with Sir Salar Jung, the British Resident (Mr. Saunders) expresses a wish to know, as early as possible, for communication to the Viceroy, whether it will be more convenient to the Nizam to visit the Prince of Wales at Bombay or at Calcutta. Sir Salar Jung replies that after consultation with his colleagues he can form no other opinion than that already known to Mr. Saunders; namely, "that the proposed journey of His Highness the Nizam would be fraught with great risk to His Highness's health, and that, for this reason, we could not incur the responsibility of recommending it." The Nizam (he is a child of eight years old) is weakly "and excitable." The honour of invitation is acknowledged; the indulgence of the Prince of Wales and of the Viceroy is craved; and it is proposed (at the outset of the correspondence) that, instead of a visit from the Nizam, a deputation shall wait upon the Prince at Bombay. They follow a courteous letter from the Foreign Secretary, expressing a hope that Sir Salar Jung will reconsider the matter, and declaring that the proposal to send a deputation to wait on the Prince is "not to be entertained." In reply, Sir Salar Jung repeats that "we should all have been greatly honoured" could the Nizam have waited on the Prince of Wales, but the doctors forbid the notion. "We have taken the opinion of his medical officers who have been in professional attendance on His Highness for the last seven years, and who are all men who have obtained diplomas of the Medical College at the Residency." To this appeal the Resident replies with a copy of the *Bombay Gazette* containing (apparently) a telegram to the effect that the Nizam simply refused to meet the Prince of Wales; and also a leading article in which that

resolution was called a display of "pride and spite. Mr. Saunders command Sir Salar Jung's "earnest attention" to this powerful and portentous copy of a newspaper, and impresses upon him—[here threat begins]—"the absolute necessity, in the interest of His Highness the Nizam, and of your own reputation, as the able and enlightened administrator for this Government, of your silencing all individuals and hostile criticism by at once giving a distinct and graceful contradiction to the very natural, but at the same time highly injurious remarks which will be repeated in the columns of every journal in the country, by forthwith accepting, in the most graceful and appropriate terms on behalf of His Highness the Nizam, the courteous invitation given him by the Government of India." To this Sir Salar Jung answers by declaring the *Bombay Gazette* telegram to be false, and its leading article not a subject for diplomatic correspondence. He vows that he has told the truth, and has not lied about the little Nizam's feebleness—his scrupulous temperament, &c.—"though it is a delicate matter to mention." "We have told you the plain, simple truth, and given in detail our reason; and if we are disbelieved it will be a misfortune beyond control. It would be impossible for us, I beg to repeat, to incur the responsibility of subjecting His Highness to the risk of the journey. We should incur the lasting reprobation of all His Highness's subjects should any evil happen to His Highness and not escape the censure even of the British Government. We do not say that His Highness refuse to go on any plea of his dignity or rank, or ask for any condition on which to go; but, entirely on account of his tender years and delicate constitution, we solicit the British Government only to excuse his attendance for a time." The Resident's reply to this letter again points out "the gravity of the interests involved in your coming to a sound and judicious decision on the question—as already pointed out in the leading article of the *Bombay Gazette*." This brings Sir Salar Jung to a display of a little more domestic detail for the Resident's information. Sir Salar Jung adds, "You know that I am not over-anxious about matters of etiquette, and therefore any notions about His Highness's dignity and so forth are not worth alluding to." But "I am at times compelled to urge upon you what I consider to be just and proper in my opinion in business matters, but am always anxious to be the means of increasing and strengthening the friendship between the two Governments, and, as I find myself placed in a very critical position with regard to the present question, I have thought it best to lay the most delicate points before you." At this point the Resident's heart seems to soften. He writes a few hurried lines to Lord Northbrook, "deprecating any action being taken by the Government of India" without further advice; he acknowledges the difficult position in which Sir Salar Jung is placed with reference to "zenana influence," and also the Indian Minister's anxiety at all times "to meet the wishes of the British Government." In a following letter Sir Salar Jung writes especially to say that if the Viceroy says the Nizam shall attend the Prince of Wales, "then, of course, nothing more is needed, as all responsibility will be removed from us"—his Ministers. The Resident says:

"It is my duty plainly to inform you that, in accordance with the line of policy you have taken up, there are but two courses available for adoption by His Excellency the Viceroy, should he be called upon under pressure of the responsibility which you most injudiciously and unbecomingly seek to impose upon him, to decide the question of His Highness's visit to Bombay, and that neither of the two courses open to him to select can prove otherwise than detrimental and embarrassing—not to say disastrous—to His Highness's interests, and to the welfare and reputation of your own Government; and it is both my duty and my earnest desire to avert, by all means within my own power and influence such unpleasant consequences, which a continued persistence in the line of conduct you have taken up must entail upon the youthful Sovereign, and his at present flourishing country. You have deemed it becoming, in spite of what I have already written to you on that subject, to throw upon His Excellency the Viceroy the invidious task of determining whether or not compulsion shall be brought to bear upon His Highness, by an order being issued directing the attendance of His Highness the Nizam at Bombay."

Further, Mr. Saunders threatens that, unless he can get a more satisfactory answer from Sir Salar Jung, the Nizam's most responsible governor, he will see what can be done with "others who are interested in the welfare of His High-

ness the young Nizam by ties of consanguinity;" in other words he will go behind the Minister and see what can be done with the zenana. Sir Salar Jung then consents to have the Nizam examined by Dr. Wyndowe, the Residency Doctor. Thereupon the Resident answers, "I decline your proposal, because you have already said that you can place no reliance on the opinion of any doctor who is not well acquainted with His Highness's constitution;"—Mr. Saunders forgetting that it was not for Sir Salar Jung's satisfaction but for the Viceroy's that Dr. Wyndowe was to be called in. "Besides," says the Resident, "I consider the question is not one which it is at all necessary in its present state to submit to the arbitrament of the doctors, but is essentially a political one, and such as cannot be solved in any other way than that which you gave me to understand when I left you yesterday that you had fairly and fully resolved upon adopting." At last Sir Salar Jung gives in. He says: Your present communication, however, so materially alters the aspect of the question that I have no hesitation, after the cordial assurances contained in it, in sending you at once an acceptance of the Government of India's proposal."

Comments on the above are superfluous. Perhaps the correspondence was complicated by the imperious tone of Mr. Saunders, the Resident, but he must have been acting under instructions. It was a pity that the Government sought to maintain its dignity by issuing such a command. The question involved was not one of policy but humanity, and our Government has unnecessarily compromised itself by persisting in its inexorable demand. The reference to the *Bombay Gazette* by the Resident is the funniest part of the whole affair. Nothing could be more dignified than the attitude of Sir Salar Jung.

THE PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS.

The prospects of the crops, except in one or two districts of Behar, are generally good. We give below a summary of the crop reports published in the *Calcutta Gazette* for the week ending the 20th instant:

Burdwan November 22.—No rain. Good reports of the crops received from all parts of the district. Sowings of cold weather crops are progressing.

Bankura November 20.—*amun*, or the early winter rice crop, is being reaped, and the *aman* or late rice is ripening, with every prospect of a very good outturn in all parts of the district, except in the north-west, where it has suffered a little for want of rain. Winter sowings still going on.

Beerbhoom, November 20.—Harvest of rice in progress. Cold weather cultivation commenced; prospects good.

Midnapore, November 20.—State and prospects of the crops very good, as before.

Hooghly, November 20.—No change since last week; harvest of early *aman* rice is progressing. Cultivation for cold weather crops going on satisfactorily.

Howrah, November 20.—Prospects of the crops are very good indeed.

24-Pargannas, November 2.—Cold weather sowings completed. Reaping of the *aman* rice crop has commenced in some places. Crops excellent.

Nuddea, November 20.—The *aman* rice harvest has begun in places and generally promises to be good. But rain is wanted in Meherpore and Bangong sub-divisions. The cold weather crops are everywhere in the ground.

Jessore, November 20.—No rain. Prospects of the crops continue good. The harvesting of the earlier crops of winter rice is commencing.

Mooredabad, November 20.—State and prospects of the crops are the same as in last week. The complaints about want of rain have diminished, although there has been no rain during the past week. Fever still continuing in Soojangange.

Dinapore, November 19.—There has been no rain throughout the district. The prospect of the crops are not very favourable and not more than eight annas outturn expected.

Malda, November 20.—No rain has fallen. The weather towards the end of the week has occasionally been cloudy; nights cold. No change in the prospect of the crops since last report. The reaping of the *aman* has commenced. Fifty-three persons have been attacked by cholera during the week, and fifty-five deaths have occurred from that disease. In the thana of Gazole seventy-six persons have been attacked by small-pox and ten have died.

Rajshaye, November 20.—No rain during the week. The rice and cold weather crops of the northern Burhind are being injured by continued absence of rain. The rice crops in *beels* and on low lands are reported to be thriving well, and to be likely to give a good outturn. The cold weather crops throughout the district would be much benefited by rain; a ten or twelve *aman* crop is expected in parts other than the North Burhind. In the Nattore sub-division the prospect of the standing late rice was deemed good, but during the present week it is said by many ryots that injury is being done by insects to crops on dry lands in parts of the sub-division. Sugar manufacturing has commenced. Cold weather crops are good. Harvesting of early rice is going on extensively.

Rungpore, November 19.—No change in rice prospects. Harvest has commenced in the Kurigram sub-division. Es-

pected outturn eight annas; Cold weather crops, mustard principally, promise well.

Bogra, November 20.—No change in the state and prospects of the crops for better or worse.

Pabna, November 20.—Weather seasonable. The harvest of the early *aman* crop is progressing. The outturn is good. The later rice and the winter crops are still doing well, but would be the better for a little rain.

Darjeeling, November 19.—In the hills the Indian corn has been reaped. The winter rice and *murua* millet is being reaped, all with very fair results. The winter rice crop in the Terai will fall far short of full return, but no serious results are to be feared.

Julpigore, November 20.—There is no change to observe in the crops since last week's report.

Cooch Behar, November 18.—Weather fair. No rain. There has been no improvement in the prospects of the crops. It is feared that in some parts of the raj the outturn of the *aman* will fall much below 8 annas.

Dacca, November 22.—Seasonable weather. State and prospects of the crops are good.

Turaidpore, November 20.—From the short rainfall in October the paddy crops are suffering, and the outturn of the crops will not hence be so good as it otherwise would have been.

Backergunge, November 18.—The condition of the crops generally is good, save in the thana of Dowlathkhan and Aramed, where some damage is reported from the want of rain.

Mymensing, November 19.—State and prospects of the crops are favorable.

Tippurah, November 19.—The early winter rice crops is being harvested; the winter rice crop generally will be rather below the average, owing to want of sufficient rainfall in October. The rice in the high lands has almost altogether been lost.

Chittagong, November 18.—There is no improvement in the state of the crops in the north. Insects, and great want of rain, are also now reported from the south of the district.

Makhholly, November 18.—The *aman* or late rice crop is progressing favorably. For want of rain about four annas and six annas of the crops have been lost in the islands of Snudip and Hatya respectively.

Hill Tipperah, November 17.—No rain during the week, and no immediate prospect of any. The rice crop will be below the average if rain is not soon forthcoming.

Patna, November 22.—With no apparent sign of rain, the Collector cannot learn, however, that the crops are in any worse state than they were at the time of his last report.

Gya, November 20, 1875.—Paddy almost all ripe; some has been cut. Some is good, only a small proportion of utter failures on the high lands. The average expectations are of a ten-anna crop. The *rubber* is also reported to be now germinating well in most parts, and some growth has been made.

Shahabad, November 20.—Prospects of the crops remain unchanged. Paddy being reaped. *Rubber* crops growing; sugarcane good; dearah crops promising.

Durbhanga, November 19.—There is no change in the prospects of the rice crop; the late heavy dew have prevented the crops in many places from drying up, but rain is urgently needed. From want of moisture the cold weather crops in many parts of the district have not germinated. Irrigation is being largely resorted to, and the crops are being rescued. It is too early to decide on the future prospects of the cold weather crops.

Morufferpore, November 20.—The prospects of rice crop in Morufferpore and Hazorepore sub-division remain unchanged. The *rubber* crops, where sowings germinated, are growing weak, and in some parts dying for want of moisture. Without early rain these crops will probably come to maturity only on the lands which lay fallow during the rains, and which were sown early. Root crops are fairly good, and are coming into consumption. The Collector has just made a complete tour of Sitamarhee sub-division, and considers that there will be an average five annas rice crop in the sub-division. Many rice fields, especially those which have been recently irrigated from Luckandayee and Adhvaya streams, are far better than he had been led to believe, but other large tracts are very much worse than he had thought possible. In an area of 150 square miles in and around Sitamarhee itself, and where the rainfall generally has been only 22 inches during the year, neither rice crop nor *rubber* crops will exceed one anna. In south Shewhar thana, half Belaud outpost, and two-fifths of Jafley thana, the rice crops will be two annas only. *Rahur* and *kurtha* pulses grow over small areas promise full crops. Indian corn is being largely imported from Nepal. On the whole, considering the failures of rice and *rubber* crops, and the fact that the ryots have had to pay two years' rent and about one-third of the Government grain advances with the produce of the last four harvests, the Collector feels great anxiety regarding this sub-division.

Saran, November 20.—Cotton and *rahar* pulse are doing well; sugarcane is being manufactured. Paddy is fast ripening. In the Charga and Sarait it is being harvested. *Rubber* crops are coming on well, but with a steady west wind apprehensions are entertained of the moisture in the fields being soon dried up.

Champarni, November 19.—The prospect of the standing crops is no better than what has been reported last week. The sky now and then is overcast but no rain. If it rains soon both the *dughani* and *rubber* crops would be largely benefited. The high land rice plants have turned yellow and are being used as fodder for cattle. The average yield is estimated at six annas at the most.

Monghyr, November 20.—Fine weather. No change in the prospects of the crop since last week. The rice is ripening. The outturn on the high lands generally will be poor, but that on the low lands, and where irrigation has been resorted to, will be, the Collector estimates, nearly an average crop. Rain now would do more harm than good to the rice. The *rubber* sowings are now going on. It is too early to calculate the probable outturn of the future crop. The *rahar* (pulse) and *choti-janna* are doing well.

Bhangulpore, November 22.—The crops in the Naridigar pergunnah are much better than previously reported, but in Dugwarah they have totally failed. Severe distress will be very local, and easily met. The cold weather crops promise to be especially good. A very large area has been sown, and is under ample well-irrigation. In Madhepore the price of *marmar* millet has fallen to 20-3 seers of

64 tolahe per rupee. In Banka a 12 anna crop is being reaped and the pulse promises well.

Purneah, November 20.—No change in the prospects of the crops from last week. The mustard is looking very well, and the sowings of the rubber crop are progressing satisfactorily.

Sonthal Perga, November 20.—The rice harvest has begun in parts, otherwise there is nothing in the condition or prospects of the crops to record.

Cuttack, November 13.—No rain, and none wanted. *Laghu* rice crop is being reaped with fair outturn; heavy *sarad* rice is progressing well. Cold weather crops coming on favorably.

Poorce, November 18.—The *laghu* or first late rice, is being reaped and gathered. *Sarad* or the main late rice, is in flower, and getting on well. Prospect of the crops in Khoordha is favorable, but cholera is reported to have broken out in different parts of the sub-division.

Balasore, November 19.—The weather continues fine and the harvest is progressing favorably.

Hazareebagh, Nov. 19th.—About half the rice crop has been reaped; the outturn it is expected will be a little below the average. The prospects of the cold weather crop, of what has been sown, is favorable.

Lohardugga, Nov. 20th.—The rice crop now is being rapidly harvested, the outturn will be very good. The *rubee* crops are germinating well, but in Palamow only about half the usual area has been sown owing to want of rain.

Singbhoon, Nov. 19th.—State and prospects of the crops are favorable.

Mandhoon, Nov. 20th.—The paddy is being harvested. The ryots, the Collector says, complain in places that the *sheppo* or blight, has done a good deal of mischief. The harvest however generally will be a good one. Cold weather crops are promising.

It will be seen from the above that the districts of Dinagepore and Rungpore are better, Furreedpore somewhat bad, and Chittagong ditto. But nowhere in Bengal Proper is distress apprehended. The Behar districts are on the whole better. Only a small area of Bhaugulpore is bad, Chumparun is better, Durbhanga a shade better, Mozufferpore is the worst of all, particularly the sub-division of Sitamarhi. This sub-division covers an area of 150 square miles. Sir Richard Temple, who is keeping a watchful eye upon the prospects of the crops, is we believe quite prepared to meet any local distress. The extension of the Dhurbangha Railway would afford great relief to the laboring population of that tract of country.

The return of prices is also assuring. We give the following comparative table of the price of common rice for a week ending on the 15th instant:

Districts.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Districts.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
BEHAR.				S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.			
W. Districts.				S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.			
Bardwan	22 8 22	8 15 12	12	Chittagong	20 0 20	0 20 0	0
Bankura	18 0 17	8 14 8	8	Noakholly	17 0 18	8 15 0	0
				Chittagong			
				and Hill Tracts	13 5 13	5 10 11	11
Besrboom	24 0 24	0 12 12	12	Hill Tipperah	18 0 19	0 13 3	3
Midnapore				Behar			
Hooghly	17 0 17	0 12 12	12	Patna	22 0 18	0 24 0	0
				Gya	22 8 21	4 18 8	8
				to Shahabad	18 0 16	0 14 0	0
				to Durbhunga	18 8 18	8 19 8	8
Howrah	16 0 16	0 14 14	14	Mozufferpore	16 0 16	0 20 0	0
Calcutta	14 8 14	8 12 8	8	Saran	21 0 21	0 22 4	4
24 Pergunnahs	13 5 13	5 11 11	11	Champurun	21 0 19	0 23 0	0
Nudda	17 5 16	13 10 14	14	Monghyr	16 8 16	8 12 6	6
Jessore	22 0 20	0 14 14	14	Rhagulpore	21 7 18	15 15 2	2
Moorshedabad	19 0 21	0 15 15	15	Purneah	19 0 16	0 24 0	0
Dinagore	24 0 24	0 26 0	0	Sonthal Per-			
Maldah	21 8 21	0 23 8	8	gunnahs	21 0 20	0 13 0	0
				to Orissa			
				Cuttack	26 4 23	10 24 15	15
Rajahshy	21 12 22	8 16 14	14	Poorce	27 9 23	10 23 10	10
				Balasore	28 0 26	0 24 0	0
				to Chota Nag-			
Rungpore	19 15 19	2 25 10	10	pore.			
Bogra	24 0 24	0 18 12	12	South-Western			
Pabna	30 0 25	0 20 0	0	Frontier			
Darjeeling	13 0 13	0 8 0	0	Agency.			
Jalpigoree	20 0 20	0 13 3	3	Hazareebagh	27 0 20	0 13 0	0
Bacca	18 0 20	0 18 0	0	Lohardugga	32 0 28	0 23 0	0
Fureedpore	24 0 24	0 18 0	0	Singbhoon	24 0 24	0 25 0	0
Backergunge	18 0 18	0 18 8	8	and and			
Mymensingh	20 0 19	0 14 0	0	32 0 28 0			
Tipperah	20 0 20	0 18 0	0	Manbhoon	21 0 20	0 16 0	0

The prices are thus generally better this year than they were in the corresponding period of last year. There has been a rise only in the districts of Dinagepore, Rungpore, Durbhanga and Mozufferpore. But the increase is not very great.

TRAVELS IN DREAM-LAND.*

In the infancy of society allegory exercised a potent influence on the mind of man. Whether under the burning sun of the torrid zone, or the freezing cold of the north, whether among the civilised Aryans in Persia, India and Greece, or

the Turanian nomads of Central Asia, it has been equally powerful everywhere and among all classes of people; and the great bulk of the literary remains of ancient times consists of allegorical representations, or personifications, of abstract ideas or of material objects. And sooth to say a perfect allegory is the finest creation of the poetic art. Our gods and demons, our titans and saints, our monsters and our fairies, are no other than our virtues and our vices,—our good passions and our evil passions—the attractive and the repulsive objects of nature,—dressed up in allegory. We now know for certain,—thanks to the labours of comparative mythologists—that the lovely Sita of the Ramayana and the faithless Helen of the Iliad are no other than myths, founded on the appearance of the sky at dawn; and Sankara Acharya says that the wars of the Devas and the Asuras mean nothing more than the contention of our carnal desires for mastery over reason and sense. And what is true of the Devas and the Asuras is likewise true of the good and the evil spirits of the Parsis, and the angels and Satan of the Mosaic record. The finest and most perfect allegory we have ever read is that of the fall of Man in the old Testament. In a coarse and vulgar form it occurs in the Banduhest of the Parsis; the Assyrian version is somewhat better, but still coarse; the Greeks developed out of it the story of Pandora and her mysterious box; but the Jews rose far above their neighbours, and constructed a story which has for three thousand years and more governed the conscience of millions over millions without its true character being perceived, except by a few. For all that it is unquestionable that it typifies the carnal desires of Adam and Eve, and none who knows any thing of the mysteries of Dionysian worship will doubt the fact for a moment. In modern times allegory has not been so successful as of yore,—at least it is not mistaken for truth—but poets, essayists and political writers have often resorted to it for developing, entertaining and effective stories. The work whose name heads this article is an attempt of this kind. Under the guise of a ramble in dream-land the author indulges in it in a variety of thoughts and reflections, and leisurely philosophises about a number of erudite subjects, each represented by an allegorical personage. The hero of his poem is Kavi or the poet in the abstract, who thrives in his infancy under the fostering care of Maya or Nature, and the guardianship of her lord Joy (Ananda), in the delightful land of Nandanpur, along with Beauty and Fancy, the two lovely daughters of Nature. In the midst of this happy group there was a giddy youth, the young hopeful of Nature, who bore the name and character of Amusement (*Promoda*). Heedless by instinct, and ever indulging in new freaks of fancy, he was just the youth whose example and allurements were calculated to tell upon the susceptible nature of the Poet, and the two contracted a firm friendship. When Amusement grew up to adolescence, he betook himself to Bilaspur, the Borough of Sensuous pleasure, and the friend of his youthful days, the poet went forth to roam over distant lands. Nature, however, did not like this separation of the poet from her household, and deputed her daughter Fancy to bring him back, with a view to consummate their union by marriage. However much the object was agreeable to the maiden, the mission was an untoward one to accomplish, and very much opposed to her sense of modesty. She accordingly leaves the task to Friendship (*Sakhya-rasa*) her confidante. Friendship, however, fails to restrain the wayward youth, who passes through various adventures, now dallying with the coy nymph Music (*Gandhari*), anon courting the more sedate maiden. Art (*Chitra-lekha*), now roaming wild with his eyes blinded by the collirium of Passion, and anon running after the delusive charms of Infatuation (*Tamasi*), which last drops him helpless into the quagmire of Lust (*Lalasa*). While so circumstanced a sedate old lady, Chetana by name (awakening of conscience), takes pity on him, and helps him out of his mortifying situation; but the land round the quagmire was infested by robbers, Pain and Disease; and they lead him captive to the capital of Despondency, to be offered as a sacrifice to the fierce goddess Expiation. Tied to the stake for immolation, with the scimitar raised before him, the youth bitterly

laments his sad lot, when by a fortunate conjuncture a Sister of Mercy passes by, takes pity on his situation loosens his bonds, and sends him on in the company of some good-natured travellers (*satsanga*), who bring him to the foot of mount Devotion. There he falls into the society of two pious saints Sama and Dama (intellectual and carnal restraint) through whose instrumentality he is ultimately brought to the land of his early boyhood, and united with his first love Fancy. The tale is a long one, and the adventures and episodes are many and complicated; but the author has worked them out with consummate tact and talent. He has a lively fancy, warm imagination, and considerable poetical talent. A man of well cultivated taste, great learning, and extensive reading, he brought to his task an aptitude and capacity which are not common among Bengali writers, and the result is a work of rare merit, which will, we have no doubt, be duly appreciated by the more intellectual classes of Bengali readers, for whom it is especially designed.

THE GREEK ORIGIN OF THE INDIAN ART.

BABU Rajendralala Mitra has most opportunely raised the question of the alleged Greek origin of the Indian Art. There are now so many literary men scattered over the country in connection with the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales that perhaps we might not considered extravagant if we were to say that this interesting subject should attract the attention of some one of them. His Royal Highness himself takes great interest in art, and if he wishes to study to any purpose the great works of Indian Art he may witness relics stamped with the marks of hoary age and their real origin. His Royal Highness as well as many of the "specials" of the London papers have travelled far and wide and seen many monuments of ancient art. And if they have at all studied the subject local investigation may elicit facts, which may greatly assist the cause of truth. The Indian, who has not gone abroad, necessarily labours under great disadvantage, in studying European Art. As Babu Rajendralala Mitra says, "I have studied the subject from copies, casts, and pictures only, whereas Europeans are familiar with large collections of authentic specimens in their great national museums. I have, however, one advantage: I have studied the subject in my mature years, and am, I presume, free from those idols of infancy which grow with our growth as 'the bone of our bone and the flesh of our flesh,' and warp the result of even the clearest reasoning. Nor have I, in this respect, I fancy, any of those prepossessions which, according to Bacon, 'infest the meditations, opinions, and doctrines of certain men with some conceit which they have most admired, or some sciences which they have most applied, and which give to all things else a tincture according to them utterly untrue and improper.' The question raised by him is very important, namely whether the evidences collected by Mr. Fergusson are sufficient to prove the Greek origin of the Indian Art. Babu Rajendralala Mitra in his Orissa has discussed it at great length. At the August meeting of the Asiatic Society he again dwelt upon it in criticising a paper of Mr. Growse on a newly discovered group of figures. He said Mr. Fergusson is of opinion that the story of 'the Ganesa is the purer and the more nearly allied to Greek art. That in the Raja Rani, (by which he means Rani Naur) though fully as vigorous and full of life, is inferior in style and much more Indian in detail and costume," and he comes to the conclusion that "some of the Yavana invaders mentioned" in his work (p. 173 of the Tree and Serpent Worship, 2nd Ed.), "introduced Greek art into this remote corner some time, it may be, before or about the Christian era; but that instead of becoming more delicate and refined, as it did at Amravarti, it became more vigorous and more local in its manifestations." (p. 269.) Not wishing to rely upon his own judgment in a case in which so great an authority had expressed a decided opinion, Babu Rajendralala communicated the above remarks to Mr. H. H. Locke, of the Government School of Art, Calcutta, who has devoted his whole life to the study of art professionally, and

* *Supra Prayasa*, By Brijendranatha Tagore.

The most competent to decide the question without any native or patriotic leaning, and he got the following in reply from him; "I cannot," says Mr. Looke, "at all support the quotation which you send me from Fergusson. I do not perceive any more of 'Greek feeling' in the Ganesa version of the fighting scene than in the Rani Gumpu rendering. As to the Ganesa carving being 'first Greek attempt,' and the Rani 'a degenerate local manifestation of it' there is absolutely nothing in the carvings themselves to support such a notion. The Ganesa carving (so far as can be judged of in its present very mutilated state) is rather the ruder of the two." The next test, Babu Rajendralala observes, is relative proportion. It has generally been accepted as a very good test for determining the nationality of human figures; but seeing, that no two masters of the Hellenic art adopted the same relative proportions, and further, that they are subject to extensive variations according to age, sex, and other causes, not to advert to the fact that specimens of ancient Indian art are generally of so primitive a character that they are not amenable to technical rules, it is hopeless to deduce from them any reliable evidence for a general premiss. "But while denying general appearance and relative proportions to be of much value as tests," Babu Rajendralala Mitra admits that "there are points in sculpture which must be accepted as conclusive. These refer to the representation of local peculiarities in art, and their value depends upon the amount of certainty with which their local character is established. Thus, for instance, the disposition of the hair of the head, which differed greatly at different times among different nations, and which, whenever the styles and their ages are well-known, must at once determine the nationality of the figures on which they are found. In the same way, in well-finished statues the high cheek bones and other peculiarities of feature, as also drapery, may be accepted as good tests to that end. Posture or pose being generally dependent on the nature of action intended to be indicated, and human nature being everywhere alike and liable to produce the same or similar postures under similar circumstances, is not always a safe guide. The exigencies of art have also a great deal to do in the pose of a figure, without in any way indicating a necessary borrowing." But the most valuable tests are representations of local vegetation,—such as the acanthus capitals noticed by General Cunningham in the Eusofzai country,—local styles of ornament, local dress and the like. These can leave no room for doubt, and when they do exist and their local character is fully established, we may with perfect safety come to a positive conclusion. Doubtless the art displayed in the two pieces of sculpture submitted by Mr. Growse is superior to what we are accustomed to in other parts of India at a later age, but such of the ancient sculptures of Mathura as have come to light along with these, and which are thoroughly Indian in subject, are not much inferior to them, and making due allowance for the decayed character of the Udayagiri, Sanchi and Amaravarti sculptures there is nothing to show that those who designed and carved them could not produce the Mathura figures. The researches made and the conclusions deduced by Babu Rajendralala Mitra, supported by such powerful reasoning and facts, must be highly gratifying to the feeling of every true Hindoo Patriot. There was certainly a time, when the Hellenic and Hindu art must have come to a point of contact, but there is nothing to show that the Indian art was Greek in its origin. Indian art like Indian civilization was an entity by itself; and however it may have benefited by such contact its origin was decidedly independent and not Greek. Those who wish to pursue this subject will do well to study Babu Rajendralala Mitra's admirable book on Orissa.

THE NATIVE CIVIL SERVICE.

THE Lieutenant Governor has determined to put the Native Civil Service examination on a permanent footing. It is notified that all appointments in the Subordinate Executive Service, and all posts of Rs. 50 monthly salary and upwards in the sub-divisional establishments, both in Regulation and Non-Regulation Provinces, will

ordinarily be reserved for persons, who are passed at the Native Civil Service examination under the conditions specified in the rules. Candidates for the gazetted appointments in the Police and Opium Departments will not be admitted to the examination save under a special certificate, which can only be granted under the orders of the Lieutenant-Governor. A certificate will be required from every candidate of his character, respectability, and general moral fitness. Each candidate will be required to produce a medical certificate stating that he is generally a man of sound health, that he has expressed his willingness to serve in any district of the Lower Province, and that he (the medical officer) believes him to be capable of doing so, so far as can be judged antecedently. Every candidate for the higher appointments will also be required to prove that he can ride, and for this purpose he may apply to the Magistrate of the district, who will either satisfy himself on the point, or select some other person he thinks competent for that purpose. Every candidate for an appointment of less than Rs. 100 will be required to prove either that he can ride as above, or that he can walk twelve miles within 3½ hours without difficulty or prostration to be certified in the same manner as the riding. The following persons will be eligible for the examination for the Native Civil Service in all appointments:—

(a)—Persons who have served Government for six years, and have held, for not less than two years, a responsible permanent appointment, above that of copyist, with a salary not less than Rs. 50 in one of the civil departments of the Government service, and can produce a sufficient certificate of ability, good conduct, and fitness for promotion from their official superiors.

(b)—Persons who have taken an University degree in Arts, Law, Medicine, or Engineering.

(c)—Persons who may be specially declared eligible for all appointments by a certificate under the hand of a Secretary to Government.

The following persons will be eligible for the examination for the Native Civil Service in appointments of less than Rs. 100 per mensem:—

(a)—Persons who have served Government with credit and efficiency for not less than three years, whose thorough facility in the use of the vernacular is certified, and who pass a preliminary examination in English.

(b)—Persons who have passed the First Arts' Examination.

(c)—Persons who may have been specially declared eligible for appointments of the lower grade by a certificate under the hand of a Secretary to Government.

The number of places which will be offered for competition in appointments of the higher and lower class respectively will be annually notified in the *Gazette* three months before the date of the examination. Appointments in the higher class are those of Rs. 100 and upwards, and in the lower class, those of less than Rs. 100. The places in each of the two classes will be awarded to the candidates according to priority in the examination: provided that none be passed for the higher class unless he obtains at least two-thirds, or for the lower class unless he obtains at least one half of the total number of obtainable marks upon the whole examination. Candidates must declare whether they desire to compete for the higher or the lower class; and a candidate for a place in the higher class will not be eligible at that examination for a place in the lower class. To the persons thus passed at the competitive examination a general expectation will be afforded of employment within a reasonable time in the class of appointments for which each has passed, though no guarantee is to be given of any particular appointment, or an appointment in a particular grade in that appointments will be appointed sooner or later to at least a sub-deputyship on Rs. 100 a month. But it does not at all follow that he will be appointed a Deputy Magistrate and Collector; he may or may not be so appointed; that will depend on the pleasure of Government. Candidates will be examined in the following subjects:

The Vernacular.	Drawing.
Chemistry.	Engineer.
Botany.	Surveying.
Law.	Gymnastic.

In the vernacular candidates may be examined

in either Bengali, Hindustani, or Ooriya, but can take up two only of the three languages, i. e., Bengali, and Hindustani, or Ooriya and Hindustani. Previous to the other examinations, European candidates, who have not passed any University examination will be required, besides passing an examination in English, to show that they possess a thorough knowledge of writing and arithmetic. They must be able to write well, quickly and correctly, from dictation, to compose a report, and to do all ordinarily arithmetic correctly and quickly, which must be duly certified by the examiners. By European is meant any person whose native language is English or any other European tongue.

We have nothing to say against the Rules. Sir Richard Temple has corrected the principle on which the Native Civil Service was based by his predecessor. The tendency of Sir George Campbell's measure was to lower the minimum pay of the Deputy Collector and Deputy Magistrate. He wanted to make the Native Civil Service examination, the only passport to the Subordinate Executive Service. If that system had been carried out in its integrity, it would have lowered the tone and morale of the service. Sir Richard Temple declares that the admission into the Native Civil Service will not necessarily give a claim to the Sub-Deputy to promotion to the higher ranks of the subordinate executive service. He also means to appoint young men of education and good social position to the subordinate executive service without requiring them to pass through the sub-deputy grade. He has already appointed a few such men, and we hope will appoint others of equal eligibility. We are glad to note that in the dispensation of his patronage Sir Richard seems to cherish the welfare of the service at heart.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE HAVE received the following names of subscribers to the Prince of Wales' Entertainment Fund:

Subscriptions already acknowledged	Rs. 42,360
Rajah Luchmon Persad Gorgo, Mohisadal	500 paid
The Narrail Family, Jessore	500
Babu Mahabeesprosd of Benares	125
" Koonjolal Banerjee	100
Hon'ble Romesh Chunder Mitter	100
Babu Golab Chand Nowlukha and son, Azeem-gunge	100
" Nilcomul Mitter, Allahabad	100
" Lokenath Mullick	100
Babu Dukhinessur Mallia, Searsole	100
" Jogendranath Rai, Chudkighi	100
Moulvie Ali Bukash	50
Babu Rajnarain Ghose	50
" Chunder Mohun Chatterjee	50 paid
" Bany Madhub Sen	50 paid
" Monmohun Banerjee, Tellinyparah	50 paid
" Sreenath Ghose	50
" Brindaban Chunder Bose	50
" Chunder Madhub Ghose	50
" Shib Chunder Nandy	50
Total	41,635

There seems to be an impression that native gentlemen in the Mofusil are precluded from subscribing to the Entertainment Fund. This is a mistake. We are requested to state that subscriptions will be received, as they are being received, from native gentlemen whether in the Town or in the Mofusil.

WE ARE glad to hear that the Government has given permission to Mr. Atkinson, Director of Public Instruction, who lately retired under the 55 years' rule, to resume his appointment for a further period of three years. This is a wise decision. A man of Mr. Atkinson's calibre could not be easily replaced.

WE OBSERVE that a requisition is in circulation for signature addressed to the Sheriff asking him to convene a public meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town on an early day "to take into consideration the present state of Municipal Administration in the city and to pass resolutions thereon." This movement has our warmest sympathy. It has been forced by the inconsiderate and blind action of the city authorities. Sir Richard Temple has, however, taken the wind out of the sails of the promoters of the meeting. His programme of municipal reform will doubt-

less satisfy all parties. Nevertheless ventilation will do good.

ON THURSDAY last the Governor General's Legislative Council re-assembled in Calcutta, Sir Henry Norman presiding. The Hon'ble Mr. Cowie and the Hon'ble Raja Narendrakishna Bahadur took their seats. The Bill to amend and declare the law existing in the Central Provinces was passed. The Hon'ble Mr. Hobhouse then moved for leave to introduce a Bill to define and amend the law relating to certain kinds of relief. The relief proposed to be given is. This the remedies which were administered by Civil Courts of Justice, said Mr. Hobhouse, might be divided into two great classes—those by which the suitor obtained the very thing which he was entitled to, and those by which he obtained not that very thing, but compensation for the loss of it. The first class was the case of specific relief, and the 2nd class might be termed compensatory relief. This bill is not intended for compensatory relief at all; except incidentally and so far as it may be either supplementary or alternative to specific relief. Its direct object would be specific relief, and mainly the two subjects mentioned above—the remedy of specific performance which rested entirely upon the contract between the parties, and remedy by way of injunction, which might rest upon the contract, or the right of the parties or one of them, to have his property protected from invasion. This measure is a move in the right direction.

WE CONGRATULATE Newab Ameer Ali on the new honor which the Government has been pleased to confer upon him. He rendered eminent services to the State during the Sepoy Mutiny of '57 as Associate Commissioner with Mr. Samuels for the pacification of the people of Patna, who had been greatly alarmed and irritated by the conduct of Mr. Taylor. Those services deserved a fitting recognition which has come at last. Since then Newab Ameer Ali has been the unpaid adviser of Government on many matters affecting the Mohamedan population, and his influence has always been exerted in furtherance of the measures of Government. May the Newab live long and enjoy the honor which the Government has been pleased to confer upon him!

IF ANY proof were wanted that the bulk of the Justices did not care for the interests of the town, the proceedings of last Wednesday's meeting afforded that proof. Forty-nine Justices had mustered when the personal question of the day, viz., the appointment of Vice-Chairman came on for discussion, but most of them vanished into thin air as soon as the most important question of the day, viz the budget and the rates, was brought forward. There was not even a quorum and if it had not been an adjourned meeting, there would have been a count-out. The working Justices, however, did their duty. The Budget as raised by the Committee was passed; the house-rate was reduced from 8 to 7½ per cent.—the Chairman proposed 8 per cent. but he had not a seconder—Mr. Roberts proposed 7 per cent. but his figures did not justify it, and he ultimately voted for 7½ per cent. The Police Lighting and Water rates were adopted at the percentage proposed by the Chairman viz., Police-rate 2½ per cent. Lighting-rate 2 per per cent. and Water-rate 4½ per cent. There was thus a reduction of 1½ per cent.

WE ARE glad to observe that Babu Omesh Chunder Dutt has been at last promoted to the 4th grade of the Educational Service. This is a fitting recognition of the satisfactory manner in which he discharged his duties as Acting Principal of the Krishnagur College. The question now remains how will the chair, which has become vacant by the lamented death of Babu Pearychurn Sircar, will be filled up. We hear that Mr. Lettbridge is not willing to part with Babu Omeshchunder Dutt, and we believe that the people of Krishnagur are anxious that he should remain where he is. In that case will the arrangement proposed by Mr. Tawny by appointing the head-master of the Hindu School to the vacant chair of the Presidency College

be carried out? Mr. Sutcliffe has returned and he is the best person to advise Government on the subject.

A NATIVE MEMBER of the Bengal Council in discussing the Calcutta Municipal Bill three ago weeks remarked as follows:

"As matters at present stood, any Chairman who should consider that there was not a sufficient following at his command might recommend the appointment of additional members, and the Government might assent to the recommendation, and thus the independent Justices might be swamped, and the Corporation might be made more and more unwieldy and less efficient."

The Hon'ble Mr. Hogg said:

"That owing to the number of Justices of the Peace, the Municipal Corporation had too many members, and that therefore individual responsibility was not felt."

By way of comment on the above we should think the following new Justices for Calcutta were *Gazetted* last week: the Hon'ble Babu Juggadunund Mookerjee, Dr. Payne, Mr. Wilson, Magistrate of 24-Pergunnahs, Mr. Scott, Vice-Chairman of the Port Commission, and Mr. Macaulay, Joint-Magistrate, 24-Pergunnahs. We should like to know what reason there was for this addition to the admittedly unwieldy body of Justices. Is not the Lieutenant Governor somewhat inconsistent in thus adding to the number of Justices while His Honor proposes to cut down by one half the present number in his reform scheme by fixing it at 60?

WE SINCERELY sympathize with Mr. Hogg in his present position. His situation is very anomalous; in the eye of the law he is the executive head of the town and consequently its guardian, while by reason of his connection with the Government service he is the representative of Government in the corporation; he is therefore a buffer between the Government and the people, and has to hear odium, which does not always legitimately belong to him. We do not know how far the attitude which he assumed towards the rate-payers in reference to Mr. Roberts' election was the result of his official position, but not a little of the discredit which has fallen to his lot, we must candidly confess, is due to his impulsive disposition. He is frank and above-board in his dealings, but he is not unfrequently carried away by his impulses, which perhaps none regrets more than he does on calm reflection. Thus he committed a grave mistake in a fit of temper in opposing Mr. Roberts' nomination when he said that the latter had "insulted" two Superintendents of Jail in his official visits. Dr. Lynch then and there contradicted him, and this scandal became the common talk of the town. A European Justice, Mr. Blacker, late of Messrs. Hoare Miller & Co., now a freight broker, a gentleman we are told of an amiable disposition, considered this a sufficient ground for withdrawing from the Corporation, and addressed the following letter to Government:

Calcutta, 22nd November, 1875.

TO THE HON'BLE SIR RICHARD TEMPLE, K.C.S.I.,
Lieutenant Governor of Bengal.

SIR,—being one of the few original Justices of the Peace for Calcutta (who were sworn in at the late Supreme Court in 1863) now resident in India, and having been present at the Meeting of the Justices held on the 17th instant, during the proceedings of which, the Chairman not only insulted a brother Justice who had been nominated for the office of Vice-Chairman, but was further convicted of a direct falsehood by another Justice of the Peace then present, but who immediately afterwards left the meeting—and as the Chairman did not (as in honor and duty bound to do) tender a full and ample apology before the meeting terminated—

I, as an independent Justice of the Peace, being of opinion that the Municipality as at present constituted is a mere sham, beg most respectfully to place in Your Honor's hands my resignation as a Justice of the Peace for Calcutta.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. M. BLACKER.

The Government has thus acknowledged Mr. Blacker's letter:

Belvedere, November 26th, 1875.

SIR,—The Lieutenant-Governor desires me to acknowledge your letter of the 22nd instant, stating your wish to resign your office as a Justice of the Peace for Calcutta, and to refer you to the notification dated the 23rd November, which appeared in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 24th, whereby your resignation has been accepted.

In your letter under acknowledgment, you state that the Chairman of the Justices, the Hon'ble Stuart Hogg, at a meeting of the Justices "was further convicted of a direct falsehood by another Justice (Dr. Lynch)" then present.

The gravity of these expressions rendered it necessary to ascertain from these gentlemen what actually passed on that occasion.

Having made enquiry accordingly from Dr. Lynch, and obtained Mr. Hogg's explanation, the Lieutenant-Governor considers that words were used on that occasion which were incorrect, and which were corrected. But he does not find any justification for the expressions above referred to in your letter.

As you have resigned your office as Justice of the Peace, it suffices for the Lieutenant-Governor to state his disapproval of those expressions.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant,

C. E. BUCKLAND,

Private Secretary.

TO G. M. BLACKER, Esq.

The letter of the Government is in complete. It ought to have published the explanations of Dr. Lynch and Mr. Hogg. We give below Dr. Lynch's letter:

November 25th 1875.

DEAR SIR,—Having seen a letter in this morning's *Daily News* from Mr. Blacker to His Honor the Lieutenant Governor in which it is asserted that at the late meeting of the Justices for the nomination of a Vice-Chairman, Mr. Hogg was convicted of a falsehood by me, I request to be allowed to explain, for the information of His Honor, that, though I was of opinion that the word to which I objected was wrongly used by Mr. Hogg, the idea of intentional misrepresentation on the part of that gentleman was not in my thoughts. If the term used by Mr. Hogg had been "irritating" or "offensive" it would have accurately described the habitual attitude of Mr. Roberts towards me throughout our intercourse as officials of the Presidency Jail. Although I was not conscious of insult on any occasion and had no personal antagonism to Mr. Roberts for matters which occurred many years ago, my knowledge of his official habits and manner made me feel that it would have been unjust to the Chairman of the Justices to associate Mr. Roberts with him so closely as the latter desired, and on this account alone, I went to the meeting.

Yours truly,

(Sd.) SIDNEY LYNCH.

To C. E. Buckland Esq.
Private Secretary, Belvedere.

Dr. Lynch's letter gives an honorable acquittal to Mr. Hogg. It is evident that Mr. Hogg was carried away by his own impressions and impulses. He used the wrong word in a fit of temper and has suffered for it. But what we regret most is that he should have allowed in his feeling to get the better of his judgment. There is now, as the writer of the *Week* in last *Saturday Evening's Englishman* says, a sad "want of tact and sagacity" in Indian politics. Mr. Blacker could have so worded his letter as to convey his meaning fully without making it offensive. He might have asked the Government whether it would make an enquiry into the matter, as the contradiction of Dr. Lynch left uncorrected had produced a painful impression. On the other hand the Government might have differently framed its reply, for in the absence of a correction of Dr. Lynch's correction Mr. Blacker he was justified in putting his own contradiction, however questionable his taste might have been. The Government would have maintained its own dignity, if it had simply said that a gentleman holding H. M.'s Commission of the Peace should not have rashly come to a conclusion so harsh without waiting for an enquiry, as the object of his letter was not simply his resignation but also an enquiry. The expression of the "disapproval" of Government to Mr. Blacker comes with an ill grace. But the correspondence has done one good—Dr. Lynch's explanation has entirely exonerated Mr. Hogg.

THE ROYAL VISIT.

Baroda, 21st November.—The Prince reached Baroda on Friday morning, and was met by the Gaekwar and Sir Madhava Rao, and conducted in a grand procession of elephants to the Residency. In the afternoon the Prince returned the Gaekwar's visit, and then witnessed the animal fights, for which this queer barbarous city is famous. The ram duels caused much amusement; the buffaloes, too, seemed in earnest, one of them losing a horn; but the elephants, rhinoceroses and the rest were pronounced impostors. At night the Prince dined with the 9th Regiment B. N. I. On Saturday the Prince and party went to Mahanpura to see the Gaekwar's leopards hunt antelope, when eight black bucks were pulled down. Afterwards the Prince tried some buck shooting, but was not so successful as the cheetahs, killing only once out of about a dozen fairly easy shots. A rather awkward incident occurred at tiffin. Chairs had been placed for only thirty at the place, and these were all filled, when a group of several special correspondents presented themselves, with all the modest confidence of duly invited guests, for they had been duly invited by Sir Madhava Rao. Only Sir Madhava had omitted to prepare the Resident for these extra guests. It was very untoward, but there

was absolutely no room, and the Resident was forced to request them to withdraw. In the evening the Prince honored the 22nd Regiment B. N. I. with his company at mess. To-morrow, Sunday, Sir Madhava Rao gives a banquet at Motee Bagh. On Monday His Royal Highness goes by rail to Kaira near Ahmedabad, a place famous for snipe, duck, and quail, returning to the Baroda Residency to dine, but proceeding after dinner to Dubka, 12 miles off, to sleep. At Dubka the Prince makes his first experiment at pig-sticking on Tuesday; if he should like the sport he may stay there till Wednesday night, when at latest he leaves for Bombay. It is supposed the *Serapis* will sail for Colombo very shortly after the arrival of the next English mail due on the 25th instant.

22nd 10h. 42m.—The Prince of Wales shoots quails to-day near Kaira. To-morrow (this day) he is engaged pig-sticking at Dabkeh. He returns to Baroda in the evening, and after dinner leaves by special train for Bombay.

23rd.—The Prince of Wales was out the whole day pig-sticking. The sport was good, and there were no accidents. He leaves for Bombay to-night. There will be grand illuminations on the route to the station.

LOCAL.

THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL BILL.

The following is the official report of the debate in the Bengal Council on the Calcutta Municipal Bill:—

The Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor: The next is a Bill to consolidate and amend to the law relating to the municipal affairs of Calcutta. That Bill also stands among the list of motions this day, and will, I hope, be proceeded with. Well, that Bill has passed through the Select Committee. The number of its clauses is great, amounting, I think, to some 350, and in passing through this Council much time will be required. Recently, various propositions have been afloat for making constitutional changes. Now, it will be in the recollection of the Council, that the Government of Bengal is not averse to any moderate or any judicious changes in the constitution of that Municipality which may commend themselves to the majority of interests concerned, and also to the majority of this Council. That being the case, in April last I put forth a Minute upon this somewhat important subject, stating the various possible changes and improvements, some of them, however, alternative improvements, which, if passed by this Council, would commend themselves to my concurrence and approval. These improvements having been referred to the Select Committee, the Committee reported that no constitutional changes were in their opinion necessary. From that I should be inclined to infer that the sense of the Council is perhaps adverse to the introduction of any important changes in the constitution of the Calcutta Municipality; still, if any, hon'ble member should have any specific motion to bring forward, any definite change to propose, all I can say is that I am still willing to consider patiently and carefully any such suggestion, and I believe I may answer for the Council generally that it would be pleased to do the same; and, in reference to my own opinion, for what it may be worth, as to possible changes or possible alternatives, I would refer hon'ble members to the Minute which I have referred to.

The Hon'ble Mr. Hogg: The report of the Select Committee explained fully the amendments proposed by the Committee, and Mr. Hogg would not therefore take up the time of the Council by recapitulating what was recorded in the report, which was in the hands of hon'ble members. There was one point upon which he thought some remarks would not be out of place, and it was to explain why he, as a member of the Committee, together with the other members of the Committee, did not propose any constitutional changes in the Bill. The Council would remember that the Lieutenant-Governor, at the time of the Bill being referred to a Select Committee, recorded a Minute, in which His Honor drew the attention of the Committee to the opinion recorded by the late Lieutenant-Governor as to the necessity of altering the constitution of the Municipality; and His Honor intimated that he was prepared to accept any moderate measure for the municipal government of the town of Calcutta which the Council might approve of. Speaking for himself, the reason why Mr. Hogg had arrived at the opinion that it was not advisable to recommend constitutional changes, was that he thought it inexpedient to disturb the present well organized system, which was in complete working order, unless he was satisfied that it was to be superseded by one which would prove to be more efficient and more popular. Against the existing corporation it was alleged that it was not a representative body. That might be readily conceded as a fact. It might further be conceded that the conduct of municipal affairs was not such as the masses of the population would select if the privilege of unrestricted self-government was accorded to them. But the question then arose—Is Government, is this Council, prepared to concede to the inhabitants of Calcutta a system of real self-government? and Mr. Hogg thought this question must be answered in the negative. No doubt the Council was prepared to grant to the citizens of Calcutta a reasonable measure of independence; but he thought it open to question whether the people of this country, and of Calcutta, were in a state to have real self-government conceded to them. It must be remembered that the views of the masses of the population of this city were in many municipal matters at variance with the views of the governing authorities, and also of the European citizens and rate-payers of Calcutta. The wish of the mass of the population—he said the mass as distinguished from the intelligent portion of the native commu-

nity, who in a measure agreed with the Europeans—was that they should be left alone, and be permitted to live after the manner of their forefathers. Their idea of good government was a minimum of taxation accompanied by complete immunity from all sanitary control. They objected to be called on to adopt those measures of sanitation which were accepted and acted upon by all notions who had arrived at an advanced stage of civilization. That he thought, was briefly the view of the mass of the native population.

As regards the views of those responsible for the government of the city, they considered it to be their duty to insist on all the primary rules of sanitation being observed and enforced, and also to press forward works which they knew from experience would be a benefit to the city, and, moreover, be hereafter appreciated, if not by the present generation, certainly by their successors.

That works of high sanitary importance had been pushed on rapidly during the last twelve years under the present administration was an admitted fact, and one which those who were foremost in denouncing the present Municipality would not venture to deny. It was, however, no use ignoring the fact that these works of improvement had been carried out by the Justices with the cordial support of the local Government, not only without the concurrence of the mass of the population, but in direct opposition to their strongly expressed wishes; and not only the expressed wishes of the native population, but also of a section of the European community as represented by at least one English paper, which had strenuously opposed both the drainage and water-supply schemes. If then, the Calcutta of to-day was a far superior place of abode to what it was twelve years ago, and if many sanitary reforms had been successfully carried out during the last few years, it was all to be attributed to the wisdom of Government in not having accorded to the citizens of Calcutta a too large measure of self-government. These being his views he certainly should not be prepared to support any measure which would, by placing too much power in the hands of the people, stop the progress of sanitary reforms. He held that what was required for Calcutta and other towns in India was a scheme which, while affording every facility for the views of all classes of the community to be fairly represented in the governing board, should reserve to Government the potential voice in the decision of matters of great importance, and should also provide a strong executive head for the administration of municipal affairs.

The present system, Mr. Hogg thought, whatever its defects might be, did in a great measure meet the above conditions; for while providing a strong executive head appointed by Government, it associated with him as many intelligent gentlemen from all classes of the community whom the local Government might be pleased to appoint as Justices.

Then came the question whether selection was better than election. In Mr. Hogg's judgment the Government was in a better position to select native gentlemen who would really represent in an intelligent way the views of the different native classes of the community in Calcutta than the public would be if the election was adopted. The objections to the present system, it appeared to him, might be briefly stated as follows:—

1st.—That owing to the number of Justices of the Peace the Municipal Corporation had too many members, and that therefore individual responsibility was not felt.

2nd.—That the Justices being created for life, they had not that sense of responsibility which might be secured if they held office for a fixed term of years, say for one, two, or three years.

3rd.—That the Municipal Meetings led to much waste of time, as some Justices availed themselves of the opportunity to indulge in long speeches far wide of the points at issue, and thereby kept away European gentlemen of position whose presence would be of great value to the Municipality.

The last object was far the most serious one, as there could be no doubt that the Municipality did much lack the presence and support of independent European gentlemen.

The remedy which should be applied was not easy to suggest as Mr. Hogg believed that European Native opinion was at direct issue on the question of the best form of municipal government.

The majority of Europeans advocated a Municipal Board, constituted of members returned by a system of representative election; whereas the Natives, as a body, were strongly opposed to any system which would not encourage the most complete publicity in all matters which came before the Municipal Board; and they argued, and with justice, that the discussions by small Municipal Board would not be as public as formal debates by a larger body.

To reconcile these conflicting views was almost impossible: such being the case, it had to be decided whether the views of the European or the Native community should be adopted. On this point Mr. Hogg was of opinion that the wishes of the Native community should take precedence of those of the European citizens of Calcutta; for the Natives, besides being far the most numerous, had an abiding interest in the city to which no European could attain.

Mr. Hogg would by all means force on the Natives of India sanitary improvements, but whilst doing so, he would afford them, in the way they liked best, every possible facility for expressing their opinions, and for ventilating their views in the most public manner possible. He agreed with the Natives that publicity could best be obtained by public debates and subsequent press criticisms; consequently he would continue the existing system of debates at the municipal meetings, even though it led, as it undoubtedly did, to great waste of time, and, what was still, worse deprived the Municipality of the support of gentlemen whose counsels were much to be desired.

He would now ask the Council to proceed with the Bill in its present form, leaving out one or two sections which defined the constitution of the corporation of Calcutta, and as the Bill passed through Council, any member who might have a scheme would be able to bring it forward.

But because the constitution of the Municipality was left an open question, that was no reason why the other sections of the Bill, which would be equally applicable to any form of Government, should not be proceeded with and settled. The Council had received a representation from the Port Commissioners, urging that the Legislature should not, in the cast of assessment on property, allow the decision of the Justices to be final. To meet this reasonable request, the

Committee had provided in the amended Bill that any person dissatisfied with the amount at which the Chairman of the Justices might assess his property, should be entitled to appeal either to a Board of Justices or to the Small Cause Court.

This, he thought, entirely met the objections urged by the Port Commissioners. Another important amendment introduced by the Committee into the Bill was the provision that there should be an appeal allowed to a Board of Justices, other than executive officers of the Municipality, against the decision of the Chairman of the Justices determining under what class a trade or profession licence was to be granted. There was another very important amendment, which affected the lighting and police rates. At present those rates were payable at the close of each quarter; in future it was proposed that they should be collected in advance. The Committee had also introduced into the amended Bill sections to enable the municipality to exercise more strict supervision over the consumption of water in houses, which was most necessary in order to check the present reckless waste of water.

With these remarks he would move that the Bill be taken into consideration in order to the settlement of its clauses.

The Hon'ble Babu Kristodas Pal said that the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill had explained to the Council the reasons which induced the Select Committee not to recommend any change in the constitution of the Municipal Corporation of Calcutta. He certainly agreed with him that although the Bill had been before the public for such a long time, there was not any very decided expression of opinion as to whether any material changes were wanted in the present constitution of the Municipality. Not until only a month ago was any voice heard on the subject, and he believed the hon'ble member was not far wrong when he said that when the Bill was first laid before the Council, there was such harmony among the several component elements of the Corporation that no change whatever was wanted by any one section of the community. Unfortunately, there had been some friction within the last few months between the executive and the independent members of the Corporation, which had led to somewhat warm discussions, and which had in a manner brought about the present agitation. But independent of that, he thought the subject was well worked the consideration of the Council. The British Government in this country was a progressive one, and the institutions founded by it were essentially progressive in their nature; and as the people were imbued with Western knowledge and ideas, they longed for the Western mode of government, and for the introduction of Western institutions for the protection of their liberties and the advancement of their welfare. It was therefore not at all unnatural that the people of Calcutta, who were admittedly in the van of intelligence and enlightenment, should ask for that measure of self-government which had been accorded to other countries which owed allegiance to the British Crown,—he meant the British colonies and dependencies.

If hon'ble members would look back to the history of municipal government in this city, they would find that about twenty years ago there was an elective system in force. It did not work fairly for many reasons, and was therefore abandoned. Then came the municipal triumvirate. That system also worked for some years, when the public cried for a change. Next came the present Municipality. It was true that this Municipality was not representative in the sense in which that word was usually understood; still it represented, to a great extent, the intelligence, wealth, and respectability of the local community. He admitted that the Corporation, as at present constituted, had undergone changes since,—he meant its personnel,—and that the later nominations had to a certain extent (he did not mean to reflect upon individuals) detracted from the character of the Corporation. The Corporation had, however, done a large measure of good. Apart from the many measures of improvement which had been carried out under the present system, and to which reference had been made by the hon'ble mover, it had proved a good school of political training for the people of Calcutta. He might say that since the Corporation had been created, the rate-payers had evinced a lively interest in all its proceedings, and that was simply because the fullest publicity had been given to all that had been done by it. Both when the elective Board used to sit, and when the triumvirate was constituted under the Act of 1856, the proceedings of the Corporation were not published to the same extent as they were now. Then an abstract of the proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners was given to the newspapers, and the public were left to draw their own inferences from that meagre statement. Now the meetings of the Corporation were open to the public. The Press reported the proceedings *verbatim* for the information of the public, and thereby a healthy public criticism was evoked among all classes who paid rates and took an interest in the affairs of the town. If the proceedings of the Justices were so widely discussed by the Press and the public at large, it was due to the present wholesome practice of publicity. The people of Calcutta being thus trained, and having acquired a proper appreciation of their own interests, naturally enough asked for a further extension of municipal privileges. They wanted, in fact, a larger measure of self-government. It was true that opinion was very much divided as to the scheme of local self-government best suited to the varied interests of the town; still he believed that opinion was unanimous upon this point, that there ought to be some sort of election in the selection of those who governed the affairs of the town, and that there ought to be a greater freedom of action in the Corporation. The hon'ble mover of the Bill had stated that he doubted whether Government was prepared to give real self-government to the people of this town. He thought it was rather bold on the part of the hon'ble member to make such an assertion in the face of the declaration from the Hon'ble President that His Honor was prepared to consider any reasonable and judicious measure of self-government. Baboo Kristodas Pal admitted that constituted as Government was in this country, their rulers were not prepared to surrender the municipal government of the metropolis to the natives of the country; but he believed that when the people wanted a measure of self-government, they did not mean that they should have the whole thing in their own hands. What they meant was that they should be associated with their European fellow-subjects in the task of local self-government. He might observe that the people of this country, if they were in any way to be useful to themselves and the nation at large, could only be so by associating themselves with their European fellow-subjects. They must learn a great deal, and under the direction and guidance of their rulers might prove themselves equal to

the task which they might be called upon to perform. Since England had planted its flag in this country, there had been many important changes in its political organization and its internal administration, and the people had been invited to an active share in the administration of the country; and he believed the Government would admit that they had not been found wanting in taking advantage of that honorable and responsible position which it had pleased the Government to confer upon them. He believed that if the people of Calcutta were associated with their advanced European fellow-subjects in the government of the affairs of the city, they would not be found wanting. As matters now went, even if the Corporation was not considered a representative institution, still it was, to a great extent, a free institution, and he believed it would be admitted that his countrymen had done their part of the work well, and to some extent creditably. Looking to the success which had in some measure attended the attempts of the people of this city to work under and with their European rulers and fellow-subjects, he thought the further extension of the experiment of local self-government might be safely made in the administration of its municipal affairs.

He did not at all agree with his hon'ble friend that the views of the masses were opposed to improvement; that they wanted only the minimum of taxation and no improvements in the town whatever. The mass of the tax-payers of the town certainly did object to excessive taxation, simply because it was often succeeded by excessive expenditure. His hon'ble friend had pointed to some of the improvements which had been carried out in the town, and which had proved highly beneficial in spite of, or rather against, the wishes of the native community, and also in spite of the opposition of a portion of the European community. He believed the hon'ble member would admit that opposition to the measures referred to did not proceed so much from any desire to obstruct improvement as to prevent excessive expenditure or extravagance; and say what his hon'ble friend might, it could not be denied that, however successful had been most costly, and in some cases the expenditure had been unjustifiably extravagant. He believed that were it not for the healthy control exercised by public opinion and by the working Justices upon the executive action of the Municipality, there would have been much greater extravagance and much more addition to taxation.

The hon'ble member in charge of the Bill had been pleased to remark that he would not, and he hoped the Government would not, consent to delegate the executive duties of the Municipality to the *bona fide* representatives of the masses. He did not clearly understand what the hon'ble member meant by the phrase "*bona fide* representatives of the masses." He believed that many of the Justices professed themselves to be representatives of the mass of the rate-payers in the town, and if such Justices had not abused their privileges and position, he could not understand why his hon'ble friend should object to the *bona fide* representatives of the masses. He thought that any person who took his seat in the Corporation, but did not seek to represent the mass of the rate-payers, who bore the bulk of the taxation, did not deserve a place in that body.

Then his hon'ble friend had discussed briefly the comparative merits of selection and election, and was satisfied with the present mode of selection. Baboo Kristodas Pal had already said that the selections made by the Government had not always been happy. He believed he would not be far wrong were he to say that there were members of the Corporation who were not even acquainted with the English language although that was the language in which the proceedings of the Corporation were conducted. Could it be expected that gentlemen, who were not acquainted with English, would be able to appreciate the merits of the measures proposed for discussion, or realize the character and gravity of the questions brought before them? Under any system, then, he would support the principle of election before selection. He admitted that the present Municipal Corporation was an unwieldy body; and if it was unwieldy, he was constrained to say that it was so owing to the action of the Government. As originally constituted, the Corporation was somewhat unwieldy; but when the Government of Sir William Grey saw that the influx of the Bengal, Behar, and Orissa Justices hampered the action of the independent Justices, he eliminated that element; but again additions had been frequently made to that body, perhaps at the instance of the executive head of the Municipality—he could not say with what object—and the Corporation had again gradually become very unwieldy and ill-assorted. He thought it was of the highest importance that the number of members of the Corporation should be limited by law. As matters at present stood, any Chairman who should consider that there was not a sufficient following at his command might recommend the appointment of additional members and the Government might assent to the recommendation and thus the independent Justices might be swamped, and the Corporation might be made more and more unwieldy and less efficient. He thought that in the interests of the town the number of members of the Corporation should be limited. He also agreed with the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill that the tenure of office of Justices as members of the Corporation should be limited to a term of years. At present the Justices were regarded in the light of life-peers. It was desirable that there should be an infusion of new blood in the Corporation from time to time. But if there was to be an infusion of new blood, it ought to be done with the consent and support of those who were vitally interested in the working of the Municipality. It meant that the nomination and election of the new members ought to rest in the hands of the rate-payers, or in a body of their representatives. If the Government had the nomination, and if the Justices were to go out by relation every three years, as proposed, then perhaps the most useful Justices who in reality rendered the most substantial assistance to the Chairman, but who might be considered obnoxious by reason of their constitutional opposition, might be made to vacate office to the detriment of the best interests of the town.

Reference had been made to the waste of time at the meetings of the Corporation, which had kept away European gentlemen of position and influence, whose presence would be most desirable. He had closely watched the working of the Municipality for the last twelve years, and he was sorry to say that the European residents of the town as a body at the best took very little interest in the business of the Corporation. He generally found the meetings of the Municipality, when personal questions came to the fore, better attended than when lakhs and lakhs of rupees were voted away, on

which occasions many of the European Justices were conspicuous by their absence. And he could well understand the reason. The Europeans came to this country as birds of passage, and, as his hon'ble friend expressed it, they had no abiding interest in the land; and so long as they saw that their own wants and comforts were attended to, Babu Kristodas Pal was not surprised to find that they could not afford time to busy themselves with matters which did not immediately interest them. The Europeans in this country were quite willing to give their time to the promotion of public business, if it did not lead to much self-sacrifice; but, as had been pointed out, the municipal debates occupied much time, and as their time was valuable, they could not attend those meetings. But what would you have? Would you have a close borough system, with a view to promote the convenience of a few members of the European community? or would you have the widest publicity for the sake of the hundreds of thousands who were interested in the business of the Municipality? He fully subscribed to every word which fell from his hon'ble friend in charge of the Bill on this part of the subject. He had taken a broad and liberal view of the question, and it was gratifying to Babu Kristodas Pal that his hon'ble friend, as the head of the Corporation, should advocate the widest publicity. If anything was criticised in these debates, it was his own proceedings; and Babu Kristodas Pal fully appreciated the feeling that had prompted his hon'ble friend to advocate the freest publicity. If the municipal debates unfortunately led distinguished members of the European community to avoid the Corporation he confessed that that was a matter of deep regret; but in no civilized country was public business of that kind conducted without debates, and the debating of questions meant the employment of a certain quantity of time for their discussion from all points of view.

He thought he had touched upon most of the important points which had been urged by his hon'ble friend in his opening speech; and although Babu Kristodas Pal was not prepared to submit a scheme of general election for the municipal local government of Calcutta, he had some ideas of his own on the subject, which he ventured to place before the Council not without the greatest diffidence. He had started with the proposition that there ought to be election and not selection, and, entertaining that view, he proposed that the municipal Corporation of Calcutta should be made self-elective. His plan was this. Let the number of the Justices who were to compose the Corporation be limited or fixed by law. Make it 100, 80, or any number you think reasonable. He might remind the Council that the city of London had a body of 200 Common Councilmen. He would, then, first limit the number of Justices to compose the Corporation; would next provide that one-tenth of the members should retire annually or every two or three years; and that the remaining members of the Corporation should elect from amongst the rate-payers successors to those who would go out by rotation,—that was to say, the remaining members should form a sort of Board of Electors. The first election might be made by the present Justices from amongst their own body, or the first members might be nominated by the Government. Thus, if the Council should agree to limit the number to 100, these might be elected from amongst the 153 Justices of which the Corporation now consisted, or the Government might select the first 100, and one-tenth of this body, that is, 10, should go out annually, and the remaining 90 should elect successors to those 10 from amongst the rate-payers, and any rate-payer possessing the necessary intellectual qualifications should be considered eligible to election. He would also fix by law the number of representatives of each section of the community, so that there might be no misunderstanding or confusion hereafter. That number should of course be regulated by a consideration of the number of the population of the various sections of the community, of their stake in the city, and of the amount of their contributions to the municipal fund. These were matters of detail. If the general scheme was approved of by the Council, it might be considered in Committee. If such a system of a self-elective Corporation should prove successful it might be considered hereafter whether the basis of election might be extended. He proposed the scheme as a tentative measure only, but he was not prepared to propose any amendments at present. If the views which he had ventured to express should meet with any support in Council, he would submit the necessary amendments for the consideration of the Council.

The motion was then agreed to.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

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Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette.—November 24, 1875.

"The 2nd November 1875.—Mr. Alexander Thomas Maclean, District and Sessions Judge, 24-Pergunnahs, is allowed leave for one month, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Code, with effect from the 4th instant.

"The 17th November 1875.—Mr. P. N. Langdon, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, in charge of the Aurangabad division of the Gya district, is vested with the powers of a Col-

lector under Act X of 1870 for the purpose of acquiring the land required for a distillery at Kootumba, in the district of Gya.

"The 19th November 1875.—Mr. John Nugent, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Sarun, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Seetamarbee Division of the Mozoomdar district.

"The 20th November 1875.—Mr. James A. Connell acted as Assistant Collector of Customs, Calcutta from the 27th September 1875 to the 21st ultimo, during the absence, on duty of Mr. G. M. Goodricke.

Mr. P. N. Lang, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Serajunge division of the Pubna district, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X (B. C.) of 1871.

Mr. Alexander Mackenzie, B.A., Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, is appointed to act temporarily, as Secretary to the Board of Revenue, from the dates on which he may relieve Mr. J. Geoghegan.

The following Officers are appointed temporarily as extra Aides-de-Camp on the personal staff of the Lieutenant-Governor, with effect from the dates mentioned against their respective names:—

Lieutenant Atwell Robert Porter, of the 28th Native Infantry, from the 1st December 1875.

Lieutenant Henry Martindale Temple, of the 37th Native Infantry, from the 16th December 1875.

Baboo Juggut Chunder Sen is appointed as a Sub-Deputy Collector under the Assistant Settlement Officer in Chittagong for the purpose of carrying out the demarcation of the revised boundary between the regulation district of Chittagong and the Hill Tracts.

Mr. Arthur John Primrose, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Bhangulpore, is transferred to Monghyr.

"The 22nd November 1875.—Mr. C. D. C. Winter, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the City Moorshedabad Division of the Moorshedabad district, is allowed leave for five days to enable him to appear at a special examination for high proficiency in Bengali, to be held in Calcutta on the first Monday in December next.

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

The Justices of the Peace for Calcutta invite tenders for the supply of six lacs of Cubic feet of Jhumma Khos all made from pugmill bricks, and broken, so that it will pass through a two inch ring, to be delivered in regular monthly instalments during the year 1876 at the Justices' depots at Bagh Bazar, Nimtollah, Shibtollah and Hastings in such proportions as may be directed.

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